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83<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1064

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 1953

Mr. POULSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

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## A BILL

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

1                   STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

2       Research and experimentation in the field of weather  
3   modification and control have attained the stage at which  
4   the application of scientific advances in this field appears  
5   to be practical.

6       The effect of the use of measures for the control of  
7   weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political  
8   structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now  
9   be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are  
10   involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that  
11   effective modification and control of weather will cause

1 profound changes in our present way of life, and will result  
2 in vast and far-reaching benefits to agriculture, industry,  
3 commerce, and the general welfare and common defense.

4 While the ultimate extent to which weather modifica-  
5 tion and control may be utilized is speculative, the applica-  
6 tion of such measures without proper safeguards, sufficient  
7 data and accurate information may result in inadequate or  
8 excessive precipitation; may cause catastrophic droughts,  
9 storms, floods, and other phenomena with consequent loss  
10 of life and property, injury to navigable streams and other  
11 channels of interstate and foreign commerce, injury to water  
12 supplies for municipal, irrigation, and industrial purposes, and  
13 injury to sources of hydroelectric power; may otherwise  
14 impede the production and transportation of goods and serv-  
15 ices for domestic consumption and export and for the national  
16 defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general  
17 welfare and common defense.

18 Thorough experimentation and full-scale operations in  
19 weather modification and control will of necessity affect areas  
20 extending across State boundaries. The Congress therefore  
21 recognizes that experimentation and application of such  
22 measures are matters of national concern.

23 Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of  
24 the Congress, in order to effect the maximum benefit which

1 may result from experiments and operations designed to  
2 modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the  
3 information derived from such activity and to cooperate with  
4 the several States and the duly authorized officials thereof  
5 with respect to such activity, all to the end of encouraging  
6 the intelligent experimentation and the beneficial develop-  
7 ment of weather modification and control, preventing its  
8 harmful and indiscriminate exercise, and fostering sound eco-  
9 nomic conditions in the public interest.

10 CREATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WEATHER CONTROL

11 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
12 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
13 That there is hereby established a national committee to be  
14 known as the Advisory Committee on Weather Control  
15 (hereinafter called the "Committee").

16 SEC. 2. The Committee shall make a complete study and  
17 evaluation of public and private experiments in weather con-  
18 trol for the purpose of determining the extent to which the  
19 United States should experiment with, engage in, or regulate  
20 activities designed to control weather conditions.

21 SEC. 3. The Committee shall be composed of the Secre-  
22 tary of Defense or his designee, the Secretary of Agriculture  
23 or his designee, the Secretary of Commerce or his designee,  
24 the Secretary of the Interior or his designee, and five mem-

1   bers appointed by the President, by and with the advice  
2   and consent of the Senate, from among persons in private  
3   life of outstanding ability in the fields of science, agriculture,  
4   and business. A vacancy in the Committee shall not affect  
5   its powers but shall be filled in the same manner that the  
6   original appointment was made.

7       SEC. 4. The Committee shall elect a Chairman and a  
8   Vice Chairman from among its members, the Chairman to  
9   be elected from among those appointed from private life.

10       SEC. 5. The Committee shall meet semiannually on the  
11   first Monday in April and the first Monday in October, and,  
12   on due notice, at such other times as the Committee may  
13   determine. Five members of the Committee shall consti-  
14   tute a quorum.

15       SEC. 6. The members of the Committee who are in the  
16   executive branch of the Government shall receive no addi-  
17   tional compensation for their services on the Committee. The  
18   members from private life shall each receive \$50 per diem  
19   when engaged in the performance of duties vested in the  
20   Committee. All members of the Committee shall be reim-  
21   bursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses  
22   incurred by them in the performance of duties vested in the  
23   Committee.

24       SEC. 7. The Committee shall have power to appoint  
25   and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as



1 may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Com-  
2 mittee, including one executive secretary at a salary not  
3 exceeding \$11,000 per annum. Officers and employees other  
4 than the executive secretary shall be appointed in accord-  
5 ance with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except  
6 that to the extent the Committee deems such action necessary  
7 to the discharge of its responsibilities, personnel may be  
8 employed and their compensation fixed without regard to  
9 such laws. The Committee shall make adequate provision  
10 for administrative review of any determination to dismiss any  
11 employee.

12 SEC. 8. (a) The Committee, or any member thereof,  
13 may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this  
14 Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and  
15 places, and take such testimony as the Committee or such  
16 member shall deem advisable. Any member of the Com-  
17 mittee may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses ap-  
18 pearing before the Committee or before such member.

19 (b) The Committee is authorized to secure directly from  
20 any executive department, bureau, agency, board, commis-  
21 sion, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality  
22 information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics for the pur-  
23 pose of this Act; and each such department, bureau, agency,  
24 board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is

1 authorized and directed to furnish such information, sugges-  
2 tions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Committee, upon  
3 request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

4 (c) The Committee may, with the consent of the agency  
5 concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the  
6 personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

7 (d) (1) The Committee shall be entitled by regula-  
8 tion, subpoena, or otherwise, to obtain such information from,  
9 require such reports and the keeping of such records by, and  
10 make such inspection of the books, records, and other writ-  
11 ings, premises or property of, any person as may be neces-  
12 sary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Act,  
13 but this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and  
14 authoritative data are available from any Federal or other  
15 responsible agency. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to  
16 obey a subpoena served upon, any person referred to in this  
17 subsection, the district court of the United States for any  
18 district in which such person is found or resides or transacts  
19 business, upon application by the Committee, shall have  
20 jurisdiction to issue an order requiring such person to appear  
21 and give testimony or to appear and produce documents, or  
22 both; and any failure to obey such order of the court may  
23 be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

24 (2) The production of a person's books, records, or  
25 other documentary evidence shall not be required at any place



1 other than the place where such person usually keeps them,  
2 if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, sub-  
3 pena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such  
4 person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such  
5 books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by  
6 such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or  
7 enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the infor-  
8 mation contained in such books, records, or other documen-  
9 tary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and  
10 mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United  
11 States.

12 (3) Any person who willfully performs any act pro-  
13 hibited or willfully fails to perform any act required by the  
14 above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation,  
15 or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more  
16 than \$500 for each offense.

17 (4) Information obtained under this subsection which  
18 the Committee deems confidential or with reference to which  
19 a request for confidential treatment is made by the person  
20 furnishing such information shall not be published or dis-  
21 closed unless the Committee determines that the withholding  
22 thereof is contrary to the purposes of this Act, and any  
23 member or employee of the Committee willfully violating  
24 this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than  
25 \$5,000.

1        SEC. 9. (a) The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of  
2    Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary  
3    of the Interior shall conduct, or contract for, such research  
4    and experiments, and shall take such further action, as may  
5    be necessary to perfect at the earliest possible date methods  
6    of controlling weather for beneficial purposes. The Com-  
7    mittee shall assist them in coordinating their functions under  
8    this section so as to avoid any duplication of effort.

9        (b) With the approval of the Committee, any contract  
10   with a Government agency relating to weather modification  
11   or control may provide that the Government will assume and  
12   will become solely responsible for either or both of the fol-  
13   lowing, to the extent that they arise out of the performance  
14   of said contract, are not compensated by insurance or other-  
15   wise, and do not result from a willful violation on the part  
16   of the contractor of any regulation or order established by  
17   the Committee—

18            (1) all liability on account of claims by third per-  
19   sons, including employees of the contractor, for death,  
20   bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, whether  
21   due to the negligence of the contractor or otherwise;  
22   but any contract so providing shall also contain appro-  
23   priate provisions for notice to the Government of any  
24   claims made against the contractor, with respect to any

1       alleged liability for death, bodily injury, or loss of or  
2       damage to property; and

3               (2) loss of or damage to property of the contractor  
4       arising as a result of a risk defined in the contract as  
5       unusual.

6   If such provision is included in the contract, no cause of  
7   action with respect to any such claims may be maintained  
8   against the contractor but such third person's sole cause of  
9   action and only remedy shall be by suit against the United  
10   States in the Court of Claims for the recovery of his rea-  
11   sonable and entire compensation with respect to such claims;  
12   but this section shall not create a cause of action in favor  
13   of any person against the United States unless, except for  
14   this section, a cause of action would lie against the con-  
15   tractor. In any such suit the United States may avail itself  
16   of any and all defenses, general or special, that might be  
17   pleaded by the contractor were the contractor the defendant  
18   in the suit.

19       (c) Any excess Government property or equipment  
20   which the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Agricul-  
21   ture, the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary of the  
22   Interior find suitable for use and necessary in accomplish-  
23   ing the purposes of this section shall be transferred to such  
24   Secretary without compensation therefor.

1        SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall report its findings  
2   and recommendations to the Congress from time to time,  
3   and shall make a final report to the Congress not later than  
4   two years after the enactment of this Act.

5        (b) Thirty days after the submission to the Congress  
6   of such final report, the Committee shall cease to exist.





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## A BILL

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

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By Mr. POULSON

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JANUARY 6, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign  
Commerce





# S. 285

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 9 (legislative day, JANUARY 6), 1953

Mr. CASE (for himself, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. SMATHERS, Mr. MAGNUSON, Mr. LEHMAN, and Mr. BUTLER of Nebraska) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

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## A BILL

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3               STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

4       Research and experimentation in the field of weather  
5       modification and control have attained the stage at which  
6       the application of scientific advances in this field appears  
7       to be practical.

8       The effect of the use of measures for the control of  
9       weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political  
10      structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now

1 be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are  
2 involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that  
3 modification and control of weather, if effective on a large  
4 scale, would cause profound changes in our present way of  
5 life and would result in vast and far-reaching benefits to  
6 agriculture, industry, commerce, and the general welfare  
7 and common defense.

8 While the ultimate extent to which weather modifica-  
9 tion and control may be utilized is speculative, the applica-  
10 tion of such measures without proper safeguards, sufficient  
11 data and accurate information may result in inadequate or  
12 excessive precipitation; may cause catastrophic droughts,  
13 storms, floods, and other phenomena with consequent loss of  
14 life and property, injury to navigable streams and other chan-  
15 nels of interstate and foreign commerce, injury to water  
16 supplies for municipal, irrigation, and industrial purposes, and  
17 injury to sources of hydroelectric power; may otherwise  
18 impede the production and transportation of goods and serv-  
19 ices for domestic consumption and export and for the national  
20 defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general  
21 welfare and common defense.

22 Thorough experimentation and full-scale operations in  
23 weather modification and control will of necessity affect  
24 areas extending across State and possibly across national  
25 boundaries. The Congress, therefore, recognizes that experi-



1   mentation and application of such measures are matters of  
2   national and international concern.

3       Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of  
4   the Congress, in order to effect the maximum benefit which  
5   may result from experiments and operations designed to  
6   modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the  
7   information derived from such activity and to cooperate with  
8   the several States and the duly authorized officials thereof  
9   with respect to such activity, all to the end of encouraging  
10  the intelligent experimentation and the beneficial develop-  
11  ment of weather modification and control, preventing its  
12  harmful and indiscriminate exercise, and fostering sound eco-  
13  nomic conditions in the public interest.

14  CREATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WEATHER CONTROL

15       SEC. 2. There is hereby established a national committee  
16  to be known as the Advisory Committee on Weather Control  
17  (hereinafter called the "Committee").

18       SEC. 3. The Committee shall make a complete study  
19  and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather  
20  control for the purpose of determining the extent to which  
21  the United States should experiment with, engage in, or  
22  regulate activities designed to control weather conditions.

23       SEC. 4. The Committee shall be composed of the  
24  Secretary of Defense or his designee, the Secretary of Agri-  
25  culture or his designee, the Secretary of Commerce or his

1 designee, the Secretary of the Interior or his designee, and  
2 five members appointed by the President, by and with the  
3 advice and consent of the Senate, from among persons in  
4 private life of outstanding ability in the fields of science,  
5 agriculture, and business. A vacancy in the Committee shall  
6 not affect its powers but shall be filled in the same manner  
7 that the original appointment was made.

8       SEC. 5 The Committee shall elect a Chairman and a  
9 Vice Chairman from among its members, the Chairman to  
10 be elected from among those appointed from private life.

11       SEC. 6. The Committee shall meet semiannually on the  
12 first Monday in April and the first Monday in October, and,  
13 on due notice, at such other times as the Committee may  
14 determine. Five members of the Committee shall constitute  
15 a quorum.

16       SEC. 7. The members of the Committee who are in the  
17 executive branch of the Government shall receive no addi-  
18 tional compensation for their services on the Committee.  
19 The members from private life shall each receive \$50 per  
20 diem when engaged in the performance of duties vested in  
21 the Committee. All members of the Committee shall be  
22 reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary ex-  
23 penses incurred by them in the performance of duties vested  
24 in the Committee.

25       SEC. 8. The Committee shall have power to appoint

1 and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as  
2 may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Committee,  
3 including one executive secretary at a salary not exceeding  
4 \$11,000 per annum. Officers and employees other than the  
5 executive secretary shall be appointed in accordance with the  
6 Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except that to the  
7 extent the Committee deems such action necessary to the  
8 discharge of its responsibilities, personnel may be employed  
9 and their compensation fixed without regard to such laws.  
10 The Committee shall make adequate provision for adminis-  
11 trative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

12 SEC. 9. (a) The Committee, or any member thereof,  
13 may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this  
14 Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and  
15 places, and take such testimony as the Committee shall deem  
16 advisable. Any member of the Committee may administer  
17 oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the  
18 Committee or before such member.

19 (b) The Committee is authorized to secure directly  
20 from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, com-  
21 mission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality  
22 information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics for the pur-  
23 pose of this Act; and each such department, bureau, agency,  
24 board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is



1 authorized and directed to furnish such information, sugges-  
2 tions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Committee, upon  
3 request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

4 (c) The Committee may, with the consent of the agency  
5 concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the  
6 personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

7 (d) (1) The Committee shall be entitled by regulation,  
8 subpoena, or otherwise, to obtain such information from, re-  
9 quire such reports and the keeping of such records by, and  
10 make such inspection of the books, records, and other writ-  
11 ings, premises or property of, any person as may be necessary  
12 or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Act, but  
13 this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and authori-  
14 tative data are available from any Federal agency. In  
15 case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena served  
16 upon, any person referred to in this subsection, the district  
17 court of the United States for any district in which such  
18 person is found or resides or transacts business, upon appli-  
19 cation by the Committee, shall have jurisdiction to issue  
20 an order requiring such person to appear and give testimony  
21 or to appear and produce documents, or both; and any failure  
22 to obey such order of the court may be punished by such  
23 court as a contempt thereof.

24 (2) The production of a person's books, records, or other

1 documentary evidence shall not be required at any place  
2 other than the place where such person usually keeps them,  
3 if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, sub-  
4 pena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such  
5 person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such  
6 books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by  
7 such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or  
8 enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the infor-  
9 mation contained in such books, records, or other documen-  
10 tary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and  
11 mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United  
12 States.

13 (3) Any person who willfully performs any act pro-  
14 hibited or willfully fails to perform any act required by the  
15 above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation,  
16 or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more  
17 than \$500 for each offense.

18 (4) Information obtained under this Act which the  
19 Committee deems confidential for purposes of national  
20 security or other reasons or with reference to which a  
21 request for confidential treatment is made by the person  
22 or agency furnishing such information, shall not be published  
23 or disclosed unless the Committee determines that the with-  
24 holding thereof is contrary to the purposes of this Act,



1 and any member or employee of the Committee willfully  
2 violating this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not  
3 more than \$5,000.

4 (e) The Committee shall be entitled to the free use of  
5 the United States mails in the same manner as the other  
6 executive agencies of the Government.

7 SEC. 10. (a) The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary  
8 of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secre-  
9 tary of the Interior may conduct, or contract for, such  
10 research and experiments, and may take such further action,  
11 as may be necessary to perfect at the earliest possible date  
12 methods of controlling weather for beneficial purposes.  
13 During the time of its existence, the Committee shall assist  
14 them in coordinating their functions under this section so as  
15 to avoid any duplication of effort.

16 (b) With the approval of the Committee, any contract  
17 of a Government agency for research or experiments, or  
18 both, may provide that the Government will indemnify the  
19 contractor against either or both of the following, to the ex-  
20 tent that they arise out of the direct performance of said  
21 contract, are not compensated by insurance or otherwise,  
22 and do not result from a willful violation on the part of the  
23 contractor of any regulation or order established by the Com-  
24 mittee: (1) liability on account of claims (including reason-  
25 able expenses of litigation or settlement of such claims) by

1 third persons, including employees of the contractor, for  
2 death, bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, aris-  
3 ing as a result of a risk defined in the contract to be un-  
4 usually hazardous: *Provided*, That any contract so provid-  
5 ing shall also contain appropriate provisions for notice to the  
6 Government of suits or actions filed or claims made against  
7 the contractor, with respect to any alleged liability for such  
8 death, bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, and  
9 for control of or assistance in the defense of any such suit,  
10 action, or claims, by the Government, at its election; and  
11 (2) loss of or damage to property of the contractor arising  
12 as a result of a risk defined in the contract to be unusually  
13 hazardous: *And provided further*, That no payment shall be  
14 made by the Government under authority of this section  
15 unless the amount thereof shall first have been certified to be  
16 just and reasonable by the Secretary concerned or by an  
17 official of the department designated for such purpose by the  
18 Secretary. Any such payment may be made, with the  
19 approval of the Secretary concerned, out of any funds  
20 obligated for the performance of such contract or out of  
21 funds available for research and development work and not  
22 otherwise obligated; or out of any funds appropriated by  
23 the Congress for the making of such payments.

24 (c) Any excess Government property or equipment  
25 which the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Agriculture,

1 the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary of the Interior  
2 find suitable for use and necessary in accomplishing the  
3 purposes of this section shall be transferred to such Secretary  
4 without compensation therefor.

5       SEC. 11. (a) The Committee shall report its findings  
6 and recommendations to the Congress from time to time.  
7 Particularly it shall report, at the earliest possible moment,  
8 on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating,  
9 by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to  
10 engage in activities designed to modify or control the  
11 weather. The Committee shall make a final report to the  
12 Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

13       (b) Thirty days after the submission to the Congress  
14 of such final report, the Committee shall cease to exist.

15       SEC. 12. There are authorized to be appropriated, from  
16 any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such  
17 sums as the Congress may from time to time deem necessary  
18 to carry out the provisions of this Act.



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# A BILL

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To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

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By Mr. CASE, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. SMITHERS,  
Mr. MAGNUSON, Mr. LEHMAN, and Mr.  
BUTLER of Nebraska

---

JANUARY 9 (legislative day, JANUARY 6), 1953  
Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Interstate and Foreign Commerce







83<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1584

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 1953

Mr. HORAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

---

## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to provide for research and study, and, in cooperation with the States, to establish appropriate safeguards, with respect to weather modification operations and the problems related thereto.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3                               DECLARATION OF POLICY

4       SECTION 1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of  
5       Congress to promote the development and use of techniques  
6       and methods for weather modification in such manner as will  
7       result in the greatest benefit to commerce, agriculture, in-  
8       dustry, and the public generally, and to provide for the  
9       establishment of safeguards, to be developed and applied

1 through cooperative effort on the part of Federal and State  
2 authorities, against the harmful consequences which might  
3 result if weather modification operations were permitted to  
4 be carried on wholly without restriction.

5 DEFINITIONS

6 SEC. 2. For the purposes of this Act—

7 (1) The term “weather modification” means inducing,  
8 increasing, decreasing, or preventing, by artificial methods,  
9 precipitation in the form of rain, snow, hail, sleet, or mist.

10 (2) The term “United States”, when used in a geo-  
11 graphical sense, means the several States and the District of  
12 Columbia, and the Territories and possessions of the United  
13 States, including the Canal Zone.

14 (3) The term “person” means an individual, corpora-  
15 tion, partnership, firm, or association.

16 (4) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of  
17 Commerce.

18 RESEARCH AND STUDY RELATING TO

19 WEATHER MODIFICATION

20 SEC. 3. The Secretary shall provide for the conduct of  
21 continuing research and study (1) of techniques and meth-  
22 ods for weather modification, (2) of the benefits to com-  
23 merce, agriculture, industry, and the public generally which  
24 may be derived from weather modification operations, and  
25 (3) of the problems which give rise to the need for imposing

1 restrictions on, or otherwise regulating, weather modifica-  
2 tion operations.

3 LICENSING AND REGULATION

4 SEC. 4. The Secretary shall prescribe regulations—

5 (1) providing for the licensing of persons who  
6 engage in weather modification operations in the United  
7 States; and

8 (2) imposing such restrictions, conditions, and re-  
9 quirements with respect to weather modification opera-  
10 tions in the United States as may be necessary to effec-  
11 tuate the policy declared in section 1; and such regula-  
12 tions shall require all persons who engage in weather  
13 modification operations in the United States to submit  
14 reports, at such times and in such manner as the Secre-  
15 tary shall designate, on all such operations carried on by  
16 them.

17 COOPERATION BETWEEN FEDERAL AND STATE

18 AUTHORITIES

19 SEC. 5. In exercising his functions under this Act, the  
20 Secretary shall seek the cooperation and advice, and con-  
21 sider the recommendations of appropriate State officials, to  
22 the end that—

23 (1) Federal regulation of weather modification  
24 operations will be limited, so far as is practicable, to  
25 matters which cannot be regulated effectively by the

1 States, acting individually or through State compacts;  
2 and

3 (2) the administration and enforcement of Federal  
4 regulation of weather modification operations will be  
5 accomplished, so far as is practicable, through utilization  
6 of the services of State agencies and officials.

7 CONSULTATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES

8 SEC. 6. In exercising his functions under this Act, the  
9 Secretary shall consult with, and consider the recommenda-  
10 tions of, other departments and agencies of the Government  
11 as to matters which are of interest to them in the field of  
12 weather modification.

13 TREATIES AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

14 SEC. 7. Any provision of this Act, or any action of the  
15 Secretary, to the extent that it conflicts with the provisions  
16 of any treaty or international agreement to which the  
17 United States hereafter becomes a party, shall be of no force  
18 or effect during the time such provisions of such treaty or  
19 international agreement are in force.

20 VIOLATIONS OF REGULATIONS

21 SEC. 8. Whoever willfully violates any regulations pre-  
22 scribed under section 4 shall be fined not more than \$2,000  
23 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.



## REPORTS TO CONGRESS

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SEC. 9. The Secretary shall submit to the Congress in January and July of each year a report with respect to his activities under this Act. The Secretary shall include in such report, and shall at such other times as he deems desirable submit to the Congress, such recommendations for additional legislation with respect to the problems related to weather modification as he deems necessary or desirable.

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to provide for research and study, and, in cooperation with the States, to establish appropriate safeguards, with respect to weather modification operations and the problems related thereto.

By Mr. HORAN

JANUARY 13, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign  
Commerce





83<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2580

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 3, 1953

Mr. SMITH of Mississippi introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

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## A BILL

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### 3               STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

4       Research and experimentation in the field of weather  
5       modification and control have attained the stage at which  
6       the application of scientific advances in this field appears  
7       to be practical.

8       The effect of the use of measures for the control of  
9       weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political  
10      structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now  
11      be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are  
12      involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that

1 effective modification and control of weather will cause  
2 profound changes in our present way of life, and will result  
3 in vast and far-reaching benefits to agriculture, industry,  
4 commerce, and the general welfare and common defense.

5 While the ultimate extent to which weather modifica-  
6 tion and control may be utilized is speculative, the applica-  
7 tion of such measures without proper safeguards, sufficient  
8 data and accurate information may result in inadequate or  
9 excessive precipitation; may cause catastrophic droughts,  
10 storms, floods, and other phenomena with consequent loss of  
11 life and property, injury to navigable streams and other chan-  
12 nels of interstate and foreign commerce, injury to water  
13 supplies for municipal, irrigation, and industrial purposes, and  
14 injury to sources of hydroelectric power; may otherwise  
15 impede the production and transportation of goods and serv-  
16 ices for domestic consumption and export and for the national  
17 defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general  
18 welfare and common defense.

19 Through experimentation and full-scale operations in  
20 weather modification and control will of necessity affect areas  
21 extending across State boundaries. The Congress therefore  
22 recognizes that experimentation and application of such  
23 measures are matters of national concern.

24 Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of  
25 the Congress, in order to effect the maximum benefit which



1 may result from experiments and operations designed to  
2 modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the  
3 information derived from such activity and to cooperate with  
4 the several States and the duly authorized officials thereof  
5 with respect to such activity, all to the end of encouraging  
6 the intelligent experimentation and the beneficial develop-  
7 ment of weather modification and control, preventing its  
8 harmful and indiscriminate exercise, and fostering sound eco-  
9 nomic conditions in the public interest.

10 CREATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WEATHER CONTROL

11 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
12 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
13 That there is hereby established a national committee to be  
14 known as the Advisory Committee on Weather Control  
15 (hereinafter called the "Committee").

16 SEC. 2. The Committee shall make a complete study and  
17 evaluation of public and private experiments in weather con-  
18 trol for the purpose of determining the extent to which the  
19 United States should experiment with, engage in, or regulate  
20 activities designed to control weather conditions.

21 SEC. 3. The Committee shall be composed of the Secre-  
22 tary of Defense or his designee, the Secretary of Agriculture  
23 or his designee, the Secretary of Commerce or his designee,  
24 the Secretary of the Interior or his designee, the Director  
25 of the National Science Foundation or his designee, and six

1 members appointed by the President, by and with the advice  
2 and consent of the Senate, from among persons in private  
3 life of outstanding ability in the fields of science, agriculture,  
4 and business. A vacancy in the Committee shall not affect  
5 its powers but shall be filled in the same manner that the  
6 original appointment was made.

7 SEC. 4. The Committee shall elect a Chairman and a  
8 Vice Chairman from among its members, the Chairman to  
9 be elected from among those appointed from private life.

10 SEC. 5. The Committee shall meet semiannually on the  
11 first Monday in April and the first Monday in October, and,  
12 on due notice, at such other times as the Committee may  
13 determine. Five members of the Committee shall consti-  
14 tute a quorum.

15 SEC. 6. The members of the Committee who are in the  
16 executive branch of the Government shall receive no addi-  
17 tional compensation for their services on the Committee. The  
18 members from private life shall each receive \$50 per diem  
19 when engaged in the performance of duties vested in the Com-  
20 mittee. All members of the Committee shall be reimbursed  
21 for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred  
22 by them in the performance of duties vested in the  
23 Committee.

24 SEC. 7. The Committee shall have power to appoint

1 and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as  
2 may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Committee,  
3 including one executive secretary at a salary not exceeding  
4 \$11,000 per annum. Officers and employees other than the  
5 executive secretary shall be appointed in accordance with the  
6 Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except that to the  
7 extent the Committee deems such action necessary to the  
8 discharge of its responsibilities, personnel may be employed  
9 and their compensation fixed without regard to such laws.  
10 The Committee shall make adequate provision for adminis-  
11 trative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

12 SEC. 8 (a) The Committee, or any member thereof,  
13 may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this  
14 Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and  
15 places, and take such testimony as the Committee or such  
16 member shall deem advisable. Any member of the Com-  
17 mittee may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses ap-  
18 pearing before the Committee or before such member.

19 (b) The Committee is authorized to secure directly  
20 from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, com-  
21 mission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality  
22 information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics for the pur-  
23 pose of this Act; and each such department, bureau, agency,  
24 board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is

1 authorized and directed to furnish such information, sugges-  
2 tions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Committee, upon  
3 request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

4 (c) The Committee may, with the consent of the agency  
5 concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the  
6 personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

7 (d) (1) The Committee shall be entitled by regulation,  
8 subpoena, or otherwise, to obtain such information from, re-  
9 quire such reports and the keeping of such records by, and  
10 make such inspection of the books, records, and other writ-  
11 ings, premises or property of, any person as may be necessary  
12 or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Act, but  
13 this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and authori-  
14 tative data are available from any Federal or other re-  
15 sponsible agency. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to  
16 obey a subpoena served upon, any person referred to in this  
17 subsection, the district court of the United States for any  
18 district in which such person is found or resides or transacts  
19 business, upon application by the Committee, shall have  
20 jurisdiction to issue an order requiring such person to appear  
21 and give testimony or to appear and produce documents, or  
22 both; and any failure to obey such order of the court may  
23 be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

24 (2) The production of a person's books, records, or other  
25 documentary evidence shall not be required at any place



1 other than the place where such person usually keeps them,  
2 if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, sub-  
3 pena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such  
4 person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such  
5 books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by  
6 such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or  
7 enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the infor-  
8 mation contained in such books, records, or other documen-  
9 tary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and  
10 mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United  
11 States.

12 (3) Any person who willfully performs any act pro-  
13 hibited or willfully fails to perform any act required by the  
14 above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation,  
15 or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more  
16 than \$500 for each offense.

17 (4) Information obtained under this subsection which  
18 the Committee deems confidential or with reference to which  
19 a request for confidential treatment is made by the person  
20 furnishing such information shall not be published or dis-  
21 closed unless the Committee determines that the withholding  
22 thereof is contrary to the purposes of this Act, and any  
23 member or employee of the Committee willfully violating  
24 this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than  
25 \$5,000.



1        SEC. 9. (a) The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of  
2    Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary  
3    of the Interior shall conduct, or contract for, such research  
4    and experiments, and shall take such further action, as may  
5    be necessary to perfect at the earliest possible date methods  
6    of controlling weather for beneficial purposes. The Com-  
7    mittee shall assist them in coordinating their functions under  
8    this section so as to avoid any duplication of effort.

9        (b) With the approval of the Committee, any contract  
10   with a Government agency relating to weather modification  
11   or control may provide that the Government will assume and  
12   will become solely responsible for either or both of the fol-  
13   lowing, to the extent that they arise out of the performance  
14   of said contract, are not compensated by insurance or other-  
15   wise, and do not result from a willful violation on the part  
16   of the contractor of any regulation or order established by  
17   the Committee—

18            (1) all liability on account of claims by third per-  
19   sons, including employees of the contractor, for death,  
20   bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, whether  
21   due to the negligence of the contractor or otherwise;  
22   but any contract so providing shall also contain appro-  
23   priate provisions for notice to the Government of any  
24   claims made against the contractor, with respect to any

1 alleged liability for death, bodily injury, or loss of or  
2 damage to property; and

3 (2) loss of or damage to property of the contractor  
4 arising as a result of a risk defined in the contract as  
5 unusual.

6 If such provision is included in the contract, no cause of  
7 action with respect to any such claims may be maintained  
8 against the contractor but such third person's sole cause of  
9 action and only remedy shall be by suit against the United  
10 States in the Court of Claims for the recovery of his rea-  
11 sonable and entire compensation with respect to such claims;  
12 but this section shall not create a cause of action in favor  
13 of any person against the United States unless, except for  
14 this section, a cause of action would lie against the con-  
15 tractor. In any such suit the United States may avail itself  
16 of any and all defenses, general or special, that might be  
17 pleaded by the contractor were the contractor the defendant  
18 in the suit.

19 (c) Any excess Government property or equipment  
20 which the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Agriculture,  
21 the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary of the Interior  
22 find suitable for use and necessary in accomplishing the  
23 purposes of this section shall be transferred to such Secretary  
24 without compensation therefor.

1        SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall report its findings  
2    and recommendations to the Congress from time to time,  
3    and shall make a final report to the Congress not later than  
4    two years after the enactment of this Act.

5        (b) Thirty days after the submission to the Congress  
6    of such final report, the Committee shall cease to exist.



83d CONGRESS  
1st Session

# H. R. 2580

## A BILL

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

By Mr. SMITH of Mississippi

FEBRUARY 3, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign  
Commerce







# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued May 21, 1953  
For actions of May 20, 1953  
83rd-1st, No. 92

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HIGHLIGHTS: House passed agricultural appropriation bill. Senate passed independent offices appropriation bill. Both Houses received President's tax message. Sen. Mundt introduced and discussed bill to liberalize acreage-allotments law for corn and wheat. Rep. Marshall discussed ways to ease cattle-price situation. Rep. Wharton defended sale of surplus butter to Army.

## HOUSE

1. AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1954. Passed, 384-12, with amendments this bill, H. R. 5227 (pp. 5420-58).

Agreed, 195-110, to a Rees (Kans.) amendment to reduce maximum payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program from \$2,500 to \$1,000 (pp. 5444-9, 5457).

Agreed to an Abernethy amendment to permit sale of SCS submarginal lands in Chickasaw and Pontotoc Counties, Miss., at market value (p. 5423).

Rejected, 196-201, a King amendment to reduce the advance authorization for the 1954 Agricultural Conservation Program from \$195,000,000 to \$140,000,000 and to permit reduction in the proportionate allocation to any State up to 40% instead of 15% (pp. 5424-43, 5456-7).

Rejected, 30-131, a Gwinn amendment to reduce Farmers' Home Administration salaries and expenses from \$27,600,000 to \$12,600,000 (pp. 5452-4).

Rejected a Gwinn amendment to reduce Federal Crop Insurance Corporation administrative expenses from \$7,350,000 to \$1,350,000 (pp. 5450-1).

A Poage amendment, to authorize the use of the \$30,000,000 contingency borrowing authorization for rural-electrification loans in the States where needed without regard to the formula, was ruled out of order (p. 5451).

A Fulton amendment, to reduce the maximum Agricultural Conservation Program payment to any one producer and to prohibit payments to persons whose net income is \$10,000 a year or more, was ruled out of order (pp. 5443-4).

2. TAXATION. Both Houses received from the President a message recommending temporary continuation of the excess-profits tax, continuation of the present corporation tax rate, postponement of the increase in old-age insurance taxes, modification of excise taxes, reduction of income taxes in 1954, and comprehensive reexamination of the entire tax structure; to House Ways and Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee (H. Doc. 146)(pp. 5458-9, 5403).



3. EXTENSION SERVICE. The Agriculture Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) without amendment H. R. 4677, to consolidate appropriation authorizations for the Extension Service (p. D444).
4. FLOOD CONTROL. The Public Works Committee reported with amendment H. R. 2954, relating to the apportionment of moneys received on account of the leasing of lands acquired by the U. S. for flood-control purposes (H. Rept. 444), and H. R. 183, approving a Connecticut River flood-control compact (H. Rept. 445) (p. 5461).

#### SENATE

5. APPROPRIATIONS. Passed with amendments H. R. 4663, the first independent offices appropriation bill for 1954 (pp. 5370-8, 5389-403). Sens. Saltonstall, Bridges, Ferguson, Gordon, Maybank, Hill, and Ellender were appointed conferees (p. 5403). Adopted, 39-36, a modified Douglas amendment to reduce by \$4,000,000 GSA funds for repair and maintenance of Federal buildings outside D. C. (pp. 5397-9). Rejected, 35-43, a Dirksen amendment to reduce by 5% all items in the bill except for Presidential pay (pp. 5376-7, 5389-93). Rejected, 19-56, a committee amendment increasing by \$5,923,930 funds for operating expenses of Public Buildings Service (pp. 5393-7). Rejected a Douglas amendment to eliminate \$3,000,000 for the building management fund (p. 5399).
6. WEATHER CONTROL. The Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee approved for reporting (but did not actually report) with amendments S. 285, to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather control (p. D443).
7. TAXATION. Sen. Knowland inserted the President's address on fiscal policy (pp. 5358-60). Sens. Gore, Ferguson, and others discussed this speech and its implications (pp. 5380-6, 5404-5).
8. WHEAT AGREEMENT. Received a Washington Legislature resolution urging renewal of the International Wheat Agreement (p. 5361).
9. ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY. Sen. Lehman inserted his statement before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee favoring this project (pp. 5366-9).
10. PERSONNEL. Sen. Williams claimed "several thousand Government employees were illegally promoted during the closing days of the Truman regime" and inserted material on this (pp. 5387-9).
11. NEW ENGLAND. Sen. Kennedy analyzed the economic problems facing New England, including speculation in wool futures (pp. 5405-18).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

12. ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS. S. J. Res. 79, by Sen. Mundt (for himself and others), to increase allowances for carry-over and acreage allotments for the 1954 crops of corn and wheat; to Agriculture and Forestry Committee, Remarks of author. (p. 5362.)
13. RECLAMATION. H. R. 5301, by Rep. Miller, Nebr., to amend and supplement the reclamation laws to provide for Federal cooperation in Non-Federal projects; to Interior and Insular Affairs Committee (p. 5462).
14. WATER COMPACT. H. R. 5309, by Rep. Patman, granting consent to an interstate







# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Issued May 28, 1953

For actions of May 27, 1953

83rd-1st, No. 97

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

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**HIGHLIGHTS:** Senate voted in favor of USDA reorganization plan. Senate committee reported weather control bill. Senate committees ordered reported State-Justice-Commerce and Treasury-Post Office appropriation bills. Rep. Cooley introduced bill providing additional USDA Assistant Secretaries. House committee reported bill to repeal Thomas leave rider. House passed Army civil appropriation bill. Sen. Eastland inserted the Secretary's speech on cotton.

## FOUR

- 1. PERSONNEL.** The Post Office and Civil Service Committee reported with amendment H. R. 4506, repealing the Thomas annual leave rider (H.Rept. 491)(p. 5935).  
The Judiciary Committee reported with amendment H. R. 4126, continuing the effectiveness of the war risk and detention benefits of Federal employees until July 1, 1954 (H. Rept. 490)(p. 5935).
- 2. APPROPRIATIONS.** Passed H. R. 5376, Army civil functions appropriation bill for 1954 (pp. 5881-92).
- 3. REORGANIZATION.** Rep. Cooley urged the Government Operations Committee to take quick action on Reorganization Plan No. 2, and stated his intention of asking recognition on Wed., June 3, to call it up for consideration (pp. 5929, 5933).
- 4. TRANSPORTATION.** The Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) with amendments H. R. 3792, authorizing the ICC to revoke or amend, under certain conditions, water carrier certificates and permits (p. D479).
- 5. FOREIGN TRADE.** Rep. Saylor spoke against maintaining a free trade (pp. 5931-2).
- 6. SCHOOL LUNCH.** Both Houses received a Mass. Legislature memorial opposing a reduction of appropriation for the national school-lunch program (p. 5936).
- 7. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM.** As stated by Majority Leader Halleck: Thurs., House will adjourn until Mon. when consent calendar will be called; Tues., private calendar



and D. C. appropriation bill; Wed., Thurs., and Fri., H. R. 5069, flammable fabrics bill, and perhaps H. R. 5141, creating a Small Business Administration (p. 5929).

SENATE

8. REORGANIZATION. Rejected, 29-46, S. Res. 100, disapproving Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953, relating to this Department/ (This in effect, is approval by the Senate of the reorganization plan. The House has until midnight, June 3, to disapprove the plan.
9. APPROPRIATIONS. The Appropriations Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) with amendments, H. R. 4974, the State, Justice, Commerce appropriation bill for 1954, and H. R. 5174, the Treasury-Post Office appropriations bill for 1954 (p. D475).
10. WEATHER CONTROL. The Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee reported with amendments S. 285, to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification (S. Rept. 306) (p. 5819).
11. TRANSPORTATION. The Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee reported without amendment H. R. 2347, to continue for six months after termination of the national emergency certain transportation preferences or priorities (S. Rept. 308) (p. 5819).
12. FOREIGN TRADE. The Rules and Administration Committee ordered reported (but did not actually report) with amendments S. Res. 25, providing for an investigation of means to expand foreign investment and trade (p. D477).
13. FLOOD DAMAGE. Sen. Ellender discussed recent flood damage in La. and urged the President to certify La. as a disaster area (pp. 5862-3).
14. ELECTRIFICATION; PRICE SUPPORTS; TELEPHONE LOANS. Received N. Dak. Farmers Union Local resolutions opposing private control of Federal electric-generating plants, favoring 100% of parity for farmers, and asking that farm commodities be protected "by at least 90% of parity," and urging Congress to provide sufficient funds for rural telephone loans (pp. 5818-9).
15. NATURAL RESOURCES. Sen. Morse spoke opposing "the giveaway program and philosophy of the Eisenhower administration in the field of natural resources" (pp. 5863-79).
16. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM, as announced by Sen. Knowland: "it is the intention of the acting majority leader to move that the Senate recess until Monday," after consideration of the doctors' draft bill is completed on Thurs., May 28, and that the State, Justice, Commerce appropriation bill will be taken up on the first of next week (p. 5862).

BILLS INTRODUCED

17. LIVESTOCK; TAXATION. S. 2005, by Sen. Mundt, to permit the sale or exchange of livestock threatened with destruction by disease to be treated as an involuntary conversion; to Finance Committee (p. 5820).
18. RUBBER. H. R. 5425, by Rep. Shafer, to authorize the disposal of the Government owned synthetic rubber facilities; to Armed Services Committee (p. 5936).

CREATING AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND  
EVALUATE EXPERIMENTS IN WEATHER MODIFICATION

---

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 21), 1953.—Ordered to be printed

---

Mr. TOBEY, from the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,  
submitted the following

## R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 285]

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (S. 285) to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

## GENERAL STATEMENT

## HEARINGS

Extensive hearings on similar bills were held during the first session of the previous Congress by subcommittees of this committee, the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, and the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.<sup>1</sup> Information developed at these hearings established the importance of and the need for legislation dealing with "weather modification." In the light of this information, a new bill was drafted and approved by these subcommittees, and subsequently introduced during the 2d session of the 82d Congress. The bill was passed by the Senate but failed of passage in the House of Representatives when called up during the last days of the session.

Your committee has reviewed the hearings and has amended the bill in several ways that do not change its substance or purpose. Interested departments and agencies of the Government have submitted reports generally favorable to the bill, and changes of detail proposed by these departments and agencies have been incorporated in the bill, with two exceptions: The Department of Defense proposed

<sup>1</sup> Joint hearings before subcommittees of the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs, Interstate and Foreign Commerce, and Agriculture and Forestry, U. S. Senate (82d Cong., 1st sess.) on S. 5, S. 222, and S. 798.



## 2 CREATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO STUDY WEATHER MODIFICATION

that a permanent commission on weather control, rather than a temporary committee, should be set up and that weather-control activities on the part of private individuals should be prohibited except under license or permit. Your committee feels that our present state of knowledge concerning weather modification will not justify these steps, that regulations and restrictions should follow only after the need for them has been clearly demonstrated, and that legislation tending to create a Federal monopoly of weather-control activities might limit and discourage experiments by private individuals and companies, the source of major discoveries in the field to date.

### NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Nonscientific and pseudoscientific rainmakers have been practicing their art for many years with many fantastic and farfetched devices and theories. The general public has, justifiably, regarded these efforts with skepticism.

However, in recent years, particularly since 1946, some genuinely scientific experiments in weather modification have been made with highly suggestive results; and, though these experiments have been conducted by responsible persons with established scientific reputations, the results have been the subject of controversial interpretations.

Because of doubts and controversy surrounding these experiments, your committee deems it advisable to make several clarifying statements on the subject, based primarily on information developed during the hearings.

1. It appears certain that, given the proper conditions, rainfall can be artificially induced. Rain cannot be produced from non-moisture-bearing skies, but, if the proper weather quantities of moisture and temperature are available, nucleating or seeding agents can be introduced into clouds to cause precipitation.

During the hearings Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution, told the subcommittees:

I have become convinced that it is possible under proper circumstances to make rain. \* \* \* we are on the threshold of an exceedingly important matter, for man has begun for the first time to affect the weather in which he lives, and no man can tell where such a move will finally end.

Dr. Vincent J. Schaefer, of the General Electric Research Laboratory, testified that—

The experimental studies using aircraft for seeding stratus and cumulus clouds have *always* shown positive reactions whenever supercooled clouds were present. [Italics supplied.]

Laboratory and outdoor experiments have repeatedly demonstrated the effectiveness of nucleating agents.

Two important questions, however, remain unanswered:

How often do the proper conditions exist so that favorable seeding opportunities present themselves? and, Will artificial nucleating agents make or increase rainfall in economically important quantities?

2. Rainmaking is a big business. In 1951 1 rainmaking contractor alone had under contract over 300,000,000 acres in the United States, or about 12 times as many acres as those under irrigation in the Nation. Since that time rainmaking activities have received less publicity. But the number and extent of experiments in weather control have not diminished. Instead they have increased and have



spread all over the world. Large-scale experiments are being carried on in Canada, Peru, Cuba, Japan, Formosa, India, Australia, Scandinavia, Turkey, Egypt, Arabia, and other countries. In the United States, associations of farmers are sponsoring many of these projects but private corporations, including public-utility companies, sugar- and fruit-growing companies, and an aluminum company, are sponsoring a substantial number of them in this and other countries.

3. If practical, weather control promises tremendous benefits for a small investment. Research work in the field involves no test plants or production facilities and very little expensive equipment. Further, actual rainmaking operations cost little in material and equipment. The seeding agents, carbon dioxide or silver iodide, are inexpensive, yet when used in small quantities they apparently produce weather phenomena of the highest magnitude. If these phenomena cause only a small increase in precipitation, this small increase can be economically important. An inch of extra rain, converted into runoff and concentrated into a reservoir, can produce electric power worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. A small fraction of an inch of extra rain, falling on crops during the period of germination, can greatly increase crop yields. But artificial nucleation may have useful potentialities in addition to that of stimulating rainfall. It may have possibilities for increasing snowpack in mountainous areas, for holding back and "softening" rainstorms, thereby reducing soil erosion, for inhibiting hail, for breaking up hurricanes, and for precipitating out and thereby cutting holes in clouds so that aircraft can operate.

4. Weather-control activities may have far-reaching and catastrophic effects. Dr. C. G. Suits, vice president and director of research of the General Electric Co., testified that rainmakers set powerful forces in motion, saying that a single pound of dry ice, as it triggered off a heavy rainstorm, could cause an energy release "equivalent in magnitude to the energy of several atomic bombs." The famous scientist and Nobel prize winner, Dr. Irving Langmuir, has presented data to support a claim that rainmakers, by releasing silver iodide, could cause drastic weather effects 2,000 or 3,000 miles from the scene of seeding operations. His hypotheses have been considered in connection with the Kansas-Missouri floods of 1951, the unusually heavy snow cover over large areas of the Missouri River Basin which melted off rapidly causing the 1952 floods, and droughts and excessive rainfall in other areas of the Nation, especially during the past 2 years. Many other scientists consider it unlikely or impossible that cloud seeding should have such long-range effects. Nevertheless, your committee feels that studies on this aspect of the subject should be continued so that, if necessary, the public can be protected against weather catastrophes brought about unnaturally.

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WEATHER CONTROL

The object of the present bill is "to find out who is doing what—under what conditions and with what results."

Farmers and ranchers have been investing millions of dollars in weather-control experiments. The scientific value to the public of these private experiments will be largely lost if an independent and impartial evaluating agency cannot be set up in the near future.

#### 4 CREATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO STUDY WEATHER MODIFICATION

In practically all cases the farmers lack the data and the scientific knowledge that would enable them to determine whether they obtain their money's worth or are simply paying for rain that would fall naturally. They need the protection of independent evaluation of experiments so they can decide whether they should continue to pay large sums of money to rainmaking contractors. This is not to suggest that the Federal Government should evaluate each individual project. It should, however, attempt to establish uniform methods of evaluation, and should collect evaluation reports from a substantial number of projects, so that these can be averaged as the basis for general pronouncements on the effectiveness of weather-control methods.

Farmers and ranchers may also need protection against fraudulent claims and promises, which they may be especially disposed to accept in times of drought, and against weather-control operations that are unskilled or loosely supervised, therefore ineffective and possibly damaging. Furthermore, the general public and certain farmers, requiring less rather than more rain at a given time, may need protection against operations sponsored by other persons that may affect them detrimentally. This is not to propose that the Federal Government should, at this time, arbitrate between different groups affected or seemingly affected by weather-control activities or should regulate and restrict practitioners of the rainmaking art. Further information must be secured before the Federal Government can determine the extent of regulation necessary and desirable, and this information should be secured as soon as possible.

For these reasons your committee believes an Advisory Committee on Weather Control should be established, as provided for in the present bill. This Advisory Committee should collect and organize information about weather-control experiments over a period of several years, should study, evaluate, and make pronouncements on these experiments; and should report to the Congress from time to time on further legislation which may be necessary and desirable to protect and further the interests of the public.

It was after much consideration that a temporary and independent Advisory Committee was settled on as the best device for studying and evaluating weather-control activities. It was felt that, weather control being an all-embracing matter, the interests of business, science, and agriculture should be represented as well as the interests of the Government. It was felt that any certain department of the Government might have an interest in developing a particular aspect of weather control to the neglect of other aspects. It was felt, further, that the recommendations on future research and legislation of an independent, nongovernmental group might carry more weight before the Congress than those of governmental employees who might be accused, perhaps unfairly, of trying to perpetuate their jobs or enlarge their departments or agencies.

The present bill does not carry provisions authorizing Federal experiments in weather control and allowing for the possible indemnification of contractors performing experiments for the Federal Government, as did the bill reported out by your committee during the 2d session of the 82d Congress.

## PROVISIONS OF THE BILL

The bill provides for a temporary Advisory Committee on Weather Control comprised of 9 members, including 5 appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from among persons in private life of outstanding ability in the fields of science, agriculture, and business, and the Secretaries of Defense, Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce, or their designees. The members from private life shall each receive \$50 per diem when engaged in the performance of their duties and shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses. The Advisory Committee shall have power to appoint and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

The Advisory Committee shall report its findings and recommendations to Congress from time to time, making its final report no later than June 30, 1955. Thirty days after submission of this final report, it shall cease to exist.

The Advisory Committee shall have authority to secure information and statistics from Federal agencies; to hold hearings and take testimony; to require the keeping of and, when necessary, the production of records on the part of persons undertaking weather-control experiments. It shall report to the Congress at the earliest possible moment on the advisability of the Government regulating by means of licenses or otherwise the activities of persons attempting to modify the weather.

The bill authorizes appropriations in the amount necessary to carry out the purposes of the act.

○





83<sup>d</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 285

[Report No. 306]

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 9 (legislative day, JANUARY 6), 1953

Mr. CASE (for himself, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. SMATHERS, Mr. MAGNUSON, Mr. LEHMAN, and Mr. BUTLER of Nebraska) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 21), 1953

Reported by Mr. TOBEY, with amendments

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

---

## A BILL

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3               STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

4       Research and experimentation in the field of weather  
5       modification and control have attained the stage at which  
6       the application of scientific advances in this field appears  
7       to be practical.

8       The effect of the use of measures for the control of  
9       weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political  
10      structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now



1 be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are  
2 involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that  
3 modification and control of weather, if effective on a large  
4 scale, would cause profound changes in our present way of  
5 life and would result in vast and far-reaching benefits to  
6 agriculture, industry, commerce, and the general welfare  
7 and common defense.

8       While the ultimate extent to which weather modifica-  
9 tion and control may be utilized is speculative, the applica-  
10 tion of such measures without proper safeguards, sufficient  
11 data and accurate information may result in inadequate or  
12 excessive precipitation; may cause catastrophic droughts,  
13 storms, floods, and other phenomena with consequent loss of  
14 life and property, injury to navigable streams and other  
15 channels of interstate and foreign commerce, injury to water  
16 supplies for municipal, irrigation, and industrial purposes, and  
17 injury to sources of hydroelectric power; may otherwise  
18 impede the production and transportation of goods and serv-  
19 ices for domestic consumption and export and for the national  
20 defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general  
21 welfare and common defense.

22       Thorough experimentation and full-scale operations in  
23 weather modification and control will of necessity affect  
24 areas extending across State and possibly across national  
25 boundaries. The Congress, therefore, recognizes that experi-

1 mentation and application of such measures are matters of  
2 national and international concern.

3 Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of  
4 the Congress, in order to effect the maximum benefit which  
5 may result from experiments and operations designed to  
6 modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the  
7 information derived from such activity and to cooperate with  
8 the several States and the duly authorized officials thereof  
9 with respect to such activity, all to the end of encouraging  
10 the intelligent experimentation and the beneficial develop-  
11 ment of weather modification and control, preventing its  
12 harmful and indiscriminate exercise, and fostering sound eco-  
13 nomic conditions in the public interest.

14 CREATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WEATHER CONTROL

15 SEC. 2. There is hereby established a national committee  
16 to be known as the Advisory Committee on Weather Control  
17 (hereinafter called the "Committee").

18 SEC. 3. The Committee shall make a complete study  
19 and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather  
20 control for the purpose of determining the extent to which  
21 the United States should experiment with, engage in, or  
22 regulate activities designed to control weather conditions.

23 SEC. 4. The Committee shall be composed of the  
24 Secretary of Defense or his designee, the Secretary of Agri-  
25 culture or his designee, the Secretary of Commerce or his

1 designee, the Secretary of the Interior or his designee, and  
2 five members appointed by the President, by and with the  
3 advice and consent of the Senate, from among persons in  
4 private life of outstanding ability in the fields of science,  
5 agriculture, and business. A vacancy in the Committee shall  
6 not affect its powers but shall be filled in the same manner  
7 that the original appointment was made.

8       SEC. 5. The Committee shall elect a Chairman and a  
9 Vice Chairman from among its members, the Chairman to  
10 be elected from among those appointed from private life.

11       SEC. 6. The Committee shall meet semiannually on the  
12 first Monday in April and the first Monday in October, and,  
13 on due notice, at such other times as the Committee may  
14 determine. Five members of the Committee shall constitute  
15 a quorum.

16       SEC. 7. The members of the Committee who are in the  
17 executive branch of the Government shall receive no addi-  
18 tional compensation for their services on the Committee.  
19 The members from private life shall each receive \$50 per  
20 diem when engaged in the performance of duties vested in  
21 the Committee. All members of the Committee shall be  
22 reimbursed *in accordance with the Travel Expense Act of*  
23 *1949, as amended.* for travel, subsistence, and other neces-  
24 sary expenses incurred by them in the performance of duties  
25 vested in the Committee.

1        SEC. 8. The Committee shall have power to appoint  
2    and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as  
3    may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Committee,  
4    including one executive secretary at a salary not exceeding  
5    \$11,000 per annum. Officers and employees other than the  
6    executive secretary shall be appointed in accordance with the  
7    Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except that to the  
8    extent the Committee deems such action necessary to the  
9    discharge of its responsibilities, personnel *for positions re-*  
10   *quiring scientific or special qualifications* may be employed  
11   and their compensation fixed without regard to such laws.  
12   The Committee shall make adequate provision for adminis-  
13   trative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

14        SEC. 9. (a) The Committee, or any member thereof,  
15   may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this  
16   Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and  
17   places, and take such testimony as the Committee shall deem  
18   advisable. Any member of the Committee may administer  
19   oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the  
20   Committee or before such member.

21        (b) The Committee is authorized to secure directly  
22   from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, com-  
23   mission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality  
24   information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics for the pur-



pose of this Act; and each such department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is authorized and directed to furnish such information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Committee, upon request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

(c) The Committee may, with the consent of the agency concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

(d) (1) The Committee shall be entitled by regulation, subpoena, or otherwise, to obtain such information from, require such reports and the keeping of such records by, and make such inspection of the books, records, and other writings, premises or property of, any person as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Act, but this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and authoritative data are available from any Federal agency. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena served upon, any person referred to in this subsection, the district court of the United States for any district in which such person is found or resides or transacts business, upon application by the Committee, shall have jurisdiction to issue an order requiring such person to appear and give testimony or to appear and produce documents, or both; and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.



1       (2) The production of a person's books, records, or other  
2 documentary evidence shall not be required at any place  
3 other than the place where such person usually keeps them,  
4 if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, sub-  
5 pena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such  
6 person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such  
7 books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by  
8 such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or  
9 enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the infor-  
10 mation contained in such books, records, or other documen-  
11 tary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and  
12 mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United  
13 States.

14       (3) Any person who willfully performs any act pro-  
15 hibited or willfully fails to perform any act required by the  
16 above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation,  
17 or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more  
18 than \$500 for each offense.

19       (4) Information obtained under this Act which the  
20 Committee deems confidential for purposes of national  
21 security or other reasons or with reference to which a  
22 request for confidential treatment is made by the person  
23 or agency furnishing such information, shall not be published  
24 or disclosed unless the Committee determines that the with-  
25 holding thereof is contrary to the purposes of this Act,

1 and any member or employee of the Committee willfully  
2 violating this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not  
3 more than \$5,000.

4 (e) The Committee shall be entitled to the free use of  
5 the United States mails in the same manner as the other  
6 executive agencies of the Government.

7 ~~SEC. 10. (a) The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary~~  
8 ~~of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secere-~~  
9 ~~tary of the Interior may conduct, or contract for, such~~  
10 ~~research and experiments, and may take such further action,~~  
11 ~~as may be necessary to perfect at the earliest possible date~~  
12 ~~methods of controlling weather for beneficial purposes. Dur-~~  
13 ~~ing the time of its existence, the Committee shall assist them~~  
14 ~~in coordinating their functions under this section so as to~~  
15 ~~avoid any duplication of effort.~~

16 ~~(b) With the approval of the Committee, any contract~~  
17 ~~of a Government agency for research or experiments, or~~  
18 ~~both, may provide that the Government will indemnify the~~  
19 ~~contractor against either or both of the following, to the ex-~~  
20 ~~tent that they arise out of the direct performance of said~~  
21 ~~contract, are not compensated by insurance or otherwise,~~  
22 ~~and do not result from a willful violation on the part of the~~  
23 ~~contractor of any regulation or order established by the Com-~~  
24 ~~mittee: (1) liability on account of claims (including reason-~~  
25 ~~able expenses of litigation or settlement of such claims) by~~

1 third persons, including employees of the contractor, for  
2 death, bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, arising  
3 as a result of a risk defined in the contract to be unusually  
4 hazardous: *Provided*, That any contract so providing  
5 shall also contain appropriate provisions for notice to the  
6 Government of suits or actions filed or claims made against  
7 the contractor, with respect to any alleged liability for such  
8 death, bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, and  
9 for control of or assistance in the defense of any such suit,  
10 action, or claims, by the Government, at its election; and  
11 ~~(2)~~ loss of or damage to property of the contractor arising  
12 as a result of a risk defined in the contract to be unusually  
13 hazardous: *And provided further*, That no payment shall be  
14 made by the Government under authority of this section  
15 unless the amount thereof shall first have been certified to be  
16 just and reasonable by the Secretary concerned or by an  
17 official of the department designated for such purpose by the  
18 Secretary. Any such payment may be made, with the  
19 approval of the Secretary concerned, out of any funds  
20 obligated for the performance of such contract or out of  
21 funds available for research and development work and not  
22 otherwise obligated; or out of any funds appropriated by  
23 the Congress for the making of such payments.

24 ~~(c)~~ Any excess Government property or equipment  
25 which the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Agriculture,



1 the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary of the Interior  
2 find suitable for use and necessary in accomplishing the  
3 purposes of this section shall be transferred to such Secretary  
4 without compensation therefor.

5 SEC. ~~11~~ 10. (a) The Committee shall report its find-  
6 ings and recommendations to the Congress from time to time.  
7 Particularly it shall report, at the earliest possible moment,  
8 on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating,  
9 by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to  
10 engage in activities designed to modify or control the  
11 weather. The Committee shall make a final report to the  
12 Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

13 (b) Thirty days after the submission to the Congress  
14 of such final report, the Committee shall cease to exist.

15 SEC. ~~12~~ 11. There are authorized to be appropriated,  
16 from any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated,  
17 such sums as the Congress may from time to time deem  
18 necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.





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**A BILL**

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To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

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By Mr. CASE, Mr. ANDERSON, Mr. SMATHERS,  
Mr. MAGNUSON, Mr. LENDMAN, and Mr.  
BUTLER of Nebraska

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JANUARY 9 (legislative day, JANUARY 6), 1953

Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Interstate and Foreign Commerce

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 21), 1953

Reported with amendments





# Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued June 9, 1953  
For actions of June 8, 1953  
83rd-1st, No. 104

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**HIGHLIGHTS:** Senate committee reported USDA appropriation bill. Senate passed farm-bankruptcy and weather-control bills. House committees reported economic controls and wheat marketing quota bills. House received conference report on 3rd supplemental appropriation bill.

## SENATE

1. **AGRICULTURAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1954.** The Appropriations Committee reported with amendments this bill, H.R. 5227 (S. Rept. 382) (p. 6370).

Representatives of the Department agencies and bureaus have been advised in detail of the Committee's actions. Copies of the bill as reported, committee report, and hearings will be distributed directly to the agency budget offices, as soon as received, pursuant to a distribution list that has been worked out with the Department agencies. The agencies will receive the material at the same time this office will receive it. The material will not be distributed from this office. In general, copies should be obtained through the agency and bureau budget offices rather than from this office.

At the end of this Digest are (1) a summary comparison of the Committee actions with the 1954 estimates, House figures, and total anticipated funds available in 1953, and (2) excerpts from the committee report.

2. **TREASURY-POST OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL, 1954.** The Appropriations Committee reported without amendment this bill, H.R. 5174 (S. Rept. 373) (p. 6369).

3. **WEATHER CONTROL.** Passed as reported S. 285 (pp. 6390-2). This bill provides for a temporary Advisory Committee on Weather Control comprised of 9 members, including 5 appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the



Senate from persons in private life with outstanding ability in the fields of science, agriculture, and business; and the Secretaries of Defense, Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce, or their designees. The Committee shall make a complete study and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather control for the purpose of determining the extent to which the U. S. should experiment with, engage in, or regulate activities designed to control weather. The Committee shall have authority to secure information and statistics from Federal agencies, to hold hearings and take testimony, and to require keeping and production of records by persons undertaking weather control experiments. It shall report to Congress at the earliest possible moment on the advisability of Government regulation of activities of persons attempting to modify the weather and shall make its final report to Congress not later than June 30, 1956, 30 days after which it shall expire.

4. FARM BANKRUPTCY. Passed as reported S. 25, to amend the uniform bankruptcy law so as to provide for farmer-debtor relief thereunder (pp. 6381-7, 6402).
5. FOREIGN TRADE. Passed as reported by the Rules Committee S. Res. 25, to provide for an investigation of means of expanding foreign investments and trade (pp. 6392-3).
6. FLOOD CONTROL. Passed without amendment H.R. 4025, to authorize additional appropriations for flood control projects in the Columbia River Basin (p. 6390). This bill will now be sent to the President.  
Passed with amendment S. 621, to authorize additional appropriations for the Lower San Joaquin River project (pp. 6389, 6402).
7. TRANSPORTATION. Passed with amendment H.R. 2347, to continue for 6 months after termination of the national emergency certain powers relating to priorities in transportation (p. 6392).
8. PURCHASING. Passed as reported S. 24, to permit review of decisions of Government contracting officers involving questions of fact arising under Government contracts in cases other than those in which fraud is alleged (pp. 6375-76, 6402, 6406).
9. LAND LAWS. Agreed to Committee amendments and several McCarran amendments before passing over S. 1857, providing that no condemnation of lands by the Federal Government shall destroy, diminish, or otherwise impair water rights on lands not condemned (pp. 6387-8).
10. FARM LABOR. Discussed and passed over H.R. 3480, to extend for 3 years the period of availability of Mexican farm labor in this country (p. 6381). Sen. Knowland inserted correspondence with the Labor Department and certain agricultural and other groups in Calif. relative to negotiations between this Government and Mexico on this matter (pp. 6403-6).
11. ROADS. Received a Mich. Legislature memorial urging the Federal Government "to give every possible consideration to the general purposes of the Hearst plan for better roads" (p. 6368).
12. PRICE SUPPORTS. Received a Calif. Legislature resolution urging Congress to support corn and feed grain on a flexible basis and to authorize liquidation of surplus Government stocks thereof "at prices which the livestock industry and other potential purchasers are able to pay" (p. 6368).



83D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 285

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

---

## AN ACT

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3               STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

4       Research and experimentation in the field of weather  
5       modification and control have attained the stage at which  
6       the application of scientific advances in this field appears  
7       to be practical.

8       The effect of the use of measures for the control of  
9       weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political  
10      structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now  
11      be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are

1 involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that  
2 modification and control of weather, if effective on a large  
3 scale, would cause profound changes in our present way of  
4 life and would result in vast and far-reaching benefits to  
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16 injury to sources of hydroelectric power; may otherwise  
17 impede the production and transportation of goods and serv-  
18 ices for domestic consumption and export and for the national  
19 defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general  
20 welfare and common defense.

21 Thorough experimentation and full-scale operations in  
22 weather modification and control will of necessity affect  
23 areas extending across State and possibly across national  
24 boundaries. The Congress, therefore, recognizes that experi-

1 mentation and application of such measures are matters of  
2 national and international concern.

3 Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of  
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6 modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the  
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2 vested in the Committee.

3 SEC. 8. The Committee shall have power to appoint  
4 and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as  
5 may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Committee,  
6 including one executive secretary at a salary not exceeding  
7 \$11,000 per annum. Officers and employees other than the  
8 executive secretary shall be appointed in accordance with the  
9 Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except that to the  
10 extent the Committee deems such action necessary to the  
11 discharge of its responsibilities, personnel for positions re-  
12 quiring scientific or special qualifications may be employed  
13 and their compensation fixed without regard to such laws.  
14 The Committee shall make adequate provision for adminis-  
15 trative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

16 SEC. 9. (a) The Committee, or any member thereof,  
17 may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this  
18 Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and  
19 places, and take such testimony as the Committee shall deem  
20 advisable. Any member of the Committee may administer  
21 oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the  
22 Committee or before such member.

23 (b) The Committee is authorized to secure directly



1 from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, com-  
2 mission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality  
3 information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics for the pur-  
4 pose of this Act; and each such department, bureau, agency,  
5 board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is  
6 authorized and directed to furnish such information, sugges-  
7 tions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Committee, upon  
8 request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

9 (c) The Committee may, with the consent of the agency  
10 concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the  
11 personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

12 (d) (1) The Committee shall be entitled by regulation,  
13 subpoena, or otherwise, to obtain such information from, re-  
14 quire such reports and the keeping of such records by, and  
15 make such inspection of the books, records, and other writ-  
16 ings, premises or property of, any person as may be necessary  
17 or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Act, but  
18 this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and authori-  
19 tative data are available from any Federal agency. In  
20 case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena served  
21 upon, any person referred to in this subsection, the district  
22 court of the United States for any district in which such  
23 person is found or resides or transacts business, upon appli-

1 cation by the Committee, shall have jurisdiction to issue  
2 an order requiring such person to appear and give testimony  
3 or to appear and produce documents, or both; and any failure  
4 to obey such order of the court may be punished by such  
5 court as a contempt thereof.

6 (2) The production of a person's books, records, or other  
7 documentary evidence shall not be required at any place  
8 other than the place where such person usually keeps them,  
9 if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, sub-  
10 pena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such  
11 person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such  
12 books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by  
13 such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or  
14 enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the infor-  
15 mation contained in such books, records, or other documen-  
16 tary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and  
17 mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United  
18 States.

19 (3) Any person who willfully performs any act pro-  
20 hibited or willfully fails to perform any act required by the  
21 above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation,  
22 or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more  
23 than \$500 for each offense.

1       (4) Information obtained under this Act which the  
2 Committee deems confidential for purposes of national  
3 security or other reasons or with reference to which a  
4 request for confidential treatment is made by the person  
5 or agency furnishing such information, shall not be published  
6 or disclosed unless the Committee determines that the with-  
7 holding thereof is contrary to the purposes of this Act,  
8 and any member or employee of the Committee willfully  
9 violating this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not  
10 more than \$5,000.

11       (e) The Committee shall be entitled to the free use of  
12 the United States mails in the same manner as the other  
13 executive agencies of the Government.

14       SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall report its find-  
15 ings and recommendations to the Congress from time to time.  
16 Particularly it shall report, at the earliest possible moment,  
17 on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating,  
18 by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to  
19 engage in activities designed to modify or control the  
20 weather. The Committee shall make a final report to the  
21 Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

22       (b) Thirty days after the submission to the Congress  
23 of such final report, the Committee shall cease to exist.

1        SEC. 11. There are authorized to be appropriated,  
2 from any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated,  
3 such sums as the Congress may from time to time deem  
4 necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Passed the Senate June 8, 1953.

Attest:

J. MARK TRICE,

*Secretary.*



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**AN ACT**

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

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JUNE 9, 1953  
Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign  
Commerce .

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, Senate bill 1637 is indefinitely postponed.

#### SALE OF CERTAIN LANDS TO THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

The bill (S. 1638) to authorize the sale of certain lands to the State of Oklahoma was announced as next in order.

Mr. GORE. Mr. President, there is a companion bill on the calendar, House bill 4505, Calendar 323. I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the House bill.

There being no objection, the bill (H. R. 4505) to authorize the sale of certain lands to the State of Oklahoma was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, Senate bill 1638 is indefinitely postponed.

#### ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE LOWER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER PROJECT—BILL PASSED TO FOOT OF CALENDAR

The bill (S. 621) to authorize additional appropriations for the lower San Joaquin River project was announced as next in order.

Mr. GOLDWATER. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I should like to ask what amount of money is involved.

Mr. KUCHEL. Mr. President, the amount of the authorization in the bill is \$8 million.

Mr. GOLDWATER. I should like to ask the Senator from California for what purpose the money is to be used.

Mr. KUCHEL. The hearings before the subcommittee of the Public Works Committee demonstrated that the authorization would be utilized; first, to fulfill the contractual obligation of the Federal Government on the Cherry Valley Reservoir now under construction by the city and county of San Francisco, from which water will be made available to the city for domestic purposes; second, for completion of the construction of the levees, revetments, and channel improvements on the lower San Joaquin River; and third, for preliminary planning for reservoir storage on the Stanislaus River to determine its economic feasibility. For these purposes, the authorization for \$8 million was approved by the committee.

Mr. GOLDWATER. I should like to ask the distinguished junior Senator from California if he feels that this will be the last of such requests for construction.

Mr. KUCHEL. I cannot say that this will be the culmination of requests for that great area of the State which I have the honor in part to represent. It may very well be that the Corps of Engineers will ultimately request consideration by the Congress of an authorization for additional water resource projects in that area of California; and I would want the Senate committee to be in a position to give consideration to such additional requests should the occasion arise.

Mr. GOLDWATER. I should like to ask the Senator from California one additional question. I wonder if he has available figures showing the total amount appropriated and spent on the lower San Joaquin project up to the present time?

Mr. KUCHEL. I wish to make it abundantly clear to my able friend from Arizona that the authorization contained in the pending bill is not in any way connected with the great Central Valley project. It has to do entirely with the question of flood control and water conservation, whereas the so-called Central Valley project is a multiple-purpose project under the authority of the Department of the Interior. This bill deals entirely with projects under the jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers. On these projects the committee report shows that \$7,691,300 has been appropriated to date.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I should like to ask the Senator from California a question. I note from what he said that the bill includes some work on a dam to impound waters which will later be available to one of the cities in California. Is that correct?

Mr. KUCHEL. Yes; that is entirely correct.

Mr. WATKINS. Is there any provision in the bill that if such water is to be so used, the city which is to receive the benefit will repay the costs?

Mr. KUCHEL. I desire to say in answer to the question of my able friend from Utah that the hearings brought out rather clearly that provision is made for participation in the costs of the project, not alone by the city and county of San Francisco, but also by the irrigation districts in the San Joaquin Basin. The Public Works Committee was quite impressed, during the hearings with the expenditures that local interests have made for the construction of water-resource projects in the basin and the cooperative agreements that have been concluded between those agencies and the Federal agencies. Thus, San Francisco and the Turlock and Modesto irrigation districts have expended about \$200 million on water-supply projects in the Tuolumne River Basin.

As far as the construction of levees along the San Joaquin and Stanislaus Rivers is concerned, I am sure the Senator is acquainted with the rule under which, once the levees are completed, jurisdiction over them is thereafter transferred to the local district or State, as the case may be, and the responsibility of maintaining the levees, monetarily and otherwise, is continued, not as a responsibility of the Federal Government, but rather as a responsibility of the State or the district concerned. That has been the general rule with respect to levees and flood control, and I can say to the distinguished Senator from Utah that that rule is applied in the pending bill.

Mr. WATKINS. I doubt whether that answer meets my inquiry. If we are going to spend \$8 million—and I take it there are other authorizations in this project—

Mr. KUCHEL. Yes.

Mr. WATKINS. I should like to know whether the bill provides that there must be a payment by the city because of the impounding of the water and providing the city with its water supply. Otherwise, it would be contrary to the principle applicable to reclamation projects, which requires beneficiaries to pay the entire cost of such projects.

Mr. KUCHEL. I believe I can supply the answer to my friend, the Senator from Utah, in this way. A part of the authorization for expenditures on the Cherry Valley Reservoir and Tuolumne River Basin which would be made under the provisions of the pending bill, has been determined by the Government of the United States to represent flood control. The remaining part of the expenditure, for the building and completion of the reservoir contemplated by the bill, is the responsibility of the city and county of San Francisco. Therefore, I think it represents, I can say to the Senator from Utah, an authorization for the appropriation of only that amount of money which in the opinion of the Corps of Army Engineers represents the flood control aspect of the reservoir which is being constructed. This authorization for an appropriation of \$8 million is for the prosecution of the plan of improvement approved by the Flood Control Act of December 22, 1944.

Mr. WATKINS. Has the Department of the Interior approved the bill?

Mr. KUCHEL. It has not, for the reason that the Department of the Interior is not concerned with this project.

Mr. WATKINS. It seems to me that any project having to do with the reclaiming of water in the 17 Western States, of which California is one, would be a matter in which the Department of the Interior would be interested. Furthermore, I believe the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs would also be interested in it. I may say it is well known to the Senate that reclamation projects in the West repay their cost—or the principal, at least—on an amortized basis.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CAPEHART in the chair). The Chair must call the attention of Senators to the fact that, under the rule, only 5 minutes of debate is allowed on the pending bill.

Mr. WATKINS. How much time have I used, Mr. President?

Mr. KUCHEL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be temporarily passed over and placed at the foot of the calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the bill will be placed at the foot of the calendar.

The clerk will state the next measure on the calendar.

#### BRIDGE ACROSS MISSISSIPPI RIVER NEAR CLINTON, IOWA, AND FULTON, ILL.

The bill (H. R. 2761) to revive and reenact the act of December 21, 1944, authorizing the City of Clinton Bridge Commission to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Mississippi River at or near the cities of Clinton, Iowa, and Fulton,



Ill., as amended, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS FOR COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN PROJECTS

The bill (H. R. 4025) authorizing the appropriation of funds to provide for the prosecution of projects in the Columbia River Basin for flood control, and for other purposes, was announced as next in order.

Mr. SMATHERS. Mr. President, I should like to request an explanation of the bill. It involves an authorization of \$75,000,000.

Mr. CORDON. Mr. President, the Senator who is in charge of the bill is not on the floor, but I should like to make a general statement with reference to it.

Mr. HENDRICKSON. Before the Senator from Oregon proceeds, may I ask one question?

Mr. CORDON. Certainly.

Mr. HENDRICKSON. Is this a self-liquidating project?

Mr. CORDON. It is a self-liquidating project with respect to the power aspect. It is a multipurpose project, involving flood control, navigation, and power.

The authorization goes to the whole Columbia Basin system, under the control of the Corps of Army Engineers. In 1950 an authorization was made of funds, to be spent on the project, in the amount of \$75 million. At that time it was stated in the report that that amount of money would be authorized for the next ensuing 3 years. The 3 years have expired without an additional authorization of a monetary nature being made. The projects have been authorized, and they are under construction. The monetary authorization has not quite expired as of this time, but there will be a deficiency if the presently executed and continuing contracts are carried forward and appropriations are not made for them in the current year.

We had hoped, of course, that the monetary authorization would be made, as it usually is, in an omnibus bill. But there has been no omnibus bill. As a result, without the enactment of this bill, the monetary authorization will be exceeded this year. The purpose of adding \$75 million is to permit of the continuation of the present construction contracts, notably with respect to the dam at The Dalles and the series of projects in the Willamette Valley. That is the purpose of the monetary authorization provided in the bill.

Mr. SMATHERS. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. CORDON. I yield.

Mr. SMATHERS. Did the authorization receive the unanimous support of the members of the Committee on Public Works?

Mr. CORDON. My understanding is that it did.

Mr. SMATHERS. Was it recommended by the various governmental agencies, such as the Bureau of the Budget?

Mr. CORDON. The recommendation of the Defense Establishment included this particular item. Their recommendation went further. They suggested that the monetary authorization be sufficient to complete the project. However, it was felt that that should not be done, and that we should ask for an interim authorization until the matter could receive the attention of the Committee on Public Works in an omnibus bill.

Mr. SMATHERS. As I understand, this is a part of the Columbia Valley Works projects, and is necessary to complete the work which has already been started?

Mr. CORDON. That is correct.

Mr. HENDRICKSON. I should like to ask one question.

Mr. CORDON. I yield.

Mr. HENDRICKSON. Does the bill have the approval of the very distinguished Senator from Oregon?

Mr. CORDON. Yes; if the Senator from Oregon can be placed in that category.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the bill, H. R. 4025, was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

#### COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND EVALUATE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EXPERIMENTS IN WEATHER MODIFICATION

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (S. 285) to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification, which had been reported from the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce with amendments, on page 4, line 22, after the word "reimbursed" to insert "in accordance with the Travel Expense Act of 1949, as amended"; on page 5, line 9, after the word "personnel", to insert "for positions requiring scientific or special qualifications"; on page 8, after line 6, to strike out:

SEC. 10. (a) The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of the Interior may conduct, or contract for, such research and experiments, and may take such further action, as may be necessary to perfect at the earliest possible date methods of controlling weather for beneficial purposes. During the time of its existence, the committee shall assist them in coordinating their functions under this section so as to avoid any duplication of effort.

(b) With the approval of the Committee, any contract of a Government agency for research or experiments, or both, may provide that the Government will indemnify the contractor against either or both of the following, to the extent that they arise out of the direct performance of said contract, are not compensated by insurance or otherwise, and do not result from a willful violation on the part of the contractor of any regulation or order established by the Committee: (1) liability on account of claims (including reasonable expenses of litigation or settlement of such claims) by third persons, including employees of the contractor, for death, bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, arising as a result of a risk de-

fined in the contract to be unusually hazardous: *Provided*, That any contract so providing shall also contain appropriate provisions for notice to the Government of suits or actions filed or claims made against the contractor, with respect to any alleged liability for such death, bodily injury, or loss of or damage to property, and for control of or assistance in the defense of any such suit, action, or claims, by the Government, at its election; and (2) loss of or damage to property of the contractor arising as a result of a risk defined in the contract to be unusually hazardous: *And provided further*, That no payment shall be made by the Government under authority of this section unless the amount thereof shall first have been certified to be just and reasonable by the Secretary concerned or by an official of the department designated for such purpose by the Secretary. Any such payment may be made, with the approval of the Secretary concerned, out of any funds obligated for the performance of such contract or out of funds available for research and development work and not otherwise obligated; or out of any funds appropriated by the Congress for the making of such payments.

(c) Any excess Government property or equipment which the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary of the Interior find suitable for use and necessary in accomplishing the purposes of this section shall be transferred to such Secretary without compensation therefor.

On page 10, line 5, to change the section number from "11" to "10", and in line 15, to change the section number from "12" to "11", so as to make the bill read:

*Be it enacted, etc.—*

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

Research and experimentation in the field of weather modification and control have attained the stage at which the application of scientific advances in this field appears to be practical.

The effect of the use of measures for the control of weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that modification and control of weather, if effective on a large scale, would cause profound changes in our present way of life and would result in vast and far-reaching benefits to agriculture, industry, commerce, and the general welfare and common defense.

While the ultimate extent to which weather modification and control may be utilized is speculative, the application of such measures without proper safeguards, sufficient data, and accurate information may result in inadequate or excessive precipitation; may cause catastrophic droughts, storms, floods, and other phenomena with consequent loss of life and property, injury to navigable streams and other channels of interstate and foreign commerce, injury to water supplies for municipal, irrigation, and industrial purposes, and injury to sources of hydroelectric powers; may otherwise impede the production and transportation of goods and services for domestic consumption and export and for the national defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general welfare and common defense.

Thorough experimentation and full-scale operations in weather modification and control will of necessity affect areas extending across State and possibly across national boundaries. The Congress, therefore, recognizes that experimentation and application of such measures are matters of national and international concern.



Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress, in order to effect the maximum benefit which may result from experiments and operations designed to modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the information derived from such activity and to cooperate with the several States and the duly authorized officials thereof with respect to such activity, all to the end of encouraging the intelligent experimentation and the beneficial development of weather modification and control, preventing its harmful and indiscriminate exercise, and fostering sound economic conditions in the public interest.

CREATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON  
WEATHER CONTROL

SEC. 2. There is hereby established a national committee to be known as the Advisory Committee on Weather Control (hereinafter called the "Committee").

SEC. 3. The Committee shall make a complete study and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather control for the purpose of determining the extent to which the United States should experiment with, engage in, or regulate activities designed to control weather conditions.

SEC. 4. The Committee shall be composed of the Secretary of Defense or his designee, the Secretary of Agriculture or his designee, the Secretary of Commerce or his designee, the Secretary of the Interior or his designee, and five members appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from among persons in private life of outstanding ability in the fields of science, agriculture, and business. A vacancy in the Committee shall not affect its powers but shall be filled in the same manner that the original appointment was made.

SEC. 5. The Committee shall elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from among its members, the Chairman to be elected from among those appointed from private life.

SEC. 6. The Committee shall meet semi-annually on the first Monday in April and the first Monday in October, and, on due notice, at such other times as the Committee may determine. Five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 7. The members of the Committee who are in the executive branch of the Government shall receive no additional compensation for their services on the Committee. The members from private life shall each receive \$50 per diem while engaged in the performance of duties vested in the Committee. All members of the Committee shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Travel Expense Act of 1949, as amended, for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of duties vested in the Committee.

SEC. 8. The committee shall have power to appoint and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the committee, including one executive secretary at a salary not exceeding \$11,000 per annum. Officers and employees other than the executive secretary shall be appointed in accordance with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except that to the extent the committee deems such action necessary to the discharge of its responsibilities, personnel for positions requiring scientific or special qualifications may be employed and their compensation fixed without regard to such laws. The committee shall make adequate provision for administrative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

SEC. 9. (a) The committee, or any member thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and places, and take such testimony as the committee shall deem advisable. Any member of the committee may administer oaths or

affirmations to witnesses appearing before the committee or before such member.

(b) The committee is authorized to secure directly from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics for the purpose of this act; and each such department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is authorized and directed to furnish such information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics directly to the committee, upon request made by the chairman or vice chairman.

(c) The committee may, with the consent of the agency concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

(d) (1) The committee shall be entitled by regulation, subpoena, or otherwise, to obtain such information from, require such reports and the keeping of such records by, and make such inspection of the books, records, and other writings, premises or property of, any person as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this act, but this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and authoritative data are available from any Federal agency. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena served upon, any person referred to in this subsection, the district court of the United States for any district in which such person is found or resides or transacts business, upon application by the committee, shall have jurisdiction to issue an order requiring such person to appear and give testimony or to appear and produce documents, or both; and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

(2) The production of a person's books, records, or other documentary evidence shall not be required at any place other than the place where such person usually keeps them, if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, subpoena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the information contained in such books, records, or other documentary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States.

(3) Any person who willfully performs any act prohibited or willfully fails to perform any act required by the above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation, or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more than \$500 for each offense.

(4) Information obtained under this act which the Committee deems confidential for purposes of national security or other reasons or with reference to which a request for confidential treatment is made by the person or agency furnishing such information, shall not be published or disclosed unless the Committee determines that the withholding thereof is contrary to the purposes of this act, and any member or employee of the Committee willfully violating this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$5,000.

(e) The Committee shall be entitled to the free use of the United States mails in the same manner as the other executive agencies of the Government.

SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the Congress from time to time. Particularly it shall report, at the earliest possible moment, on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating, by means of li-

censes or otherwise, those who attempt to engage in activities designed to modify or control the weather. The Committee shall make a final report to the Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

(b) Thirty days after the submission to the Congress of such final report, the Committee shall cease to exist.

SEC. 11. There are authorized to be appropriated, from any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as the Congress may from time to time deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

The amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

Mr. CASE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have a statement printed at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENT BY SENATOR CASE ON S. 285 (CALIF. ENDOR. NO. 309), PASSED JUNE 8, 1953

In my opinion this is one of the most important pieces of legislation taken up by this Congress—important to the farmer, to the hydroelectric power producer, and all other direct users of rainfall, and to the general public. There are few things of such public concern as the weather.

Not long ago the Senate considered appropriations for the Weather Bureau, which agency predicts the weather. This bill ventures into a new field, that of controlling the weather.

In recent years scientists have carried out some outstanding experiments in weather control and rainmaking. The results have been controversial but highly suggestive, so much so that one eminent scientist states flatly that "It will be easier to make the weather than to forecast it."

Practically all persons familiar with the field agree (1) that weather can be controlled to a certain degree, as yet undetermined, by artificial nucleation, and (2) that if feasible weather control on a large scale will produce tremendous benefits to humanity. The potentialities have many times been compared to atomic power.

Like atomic power, weather control may have potentialities for destruction as well as benefit. Dr. Irving Langmuir of the General Electric Research Laboratory says, "The existence of widespread effects of seeding proves that it should be possible at low cost to modify and, within limits, to control the general synoptic weather patterns over whole continents." He adds a warning: "If seeding schedules are not well planned, floods or droughts may be produced. The harmful effects in both cases come from too long a continuation of rainy or dry weather."

Meanwhile, many experiments costing many thousands of dollars are being sponsored at this time by farmers and private companies. In practically all cases these persons hiring the services of rainmaking contractors lack the data and the scientific knowledge that would enable them to determine whether they obtain their money's worth or are simply paying for rain that would fall naturally.

This bill is a step toward informing the public and protecting it from possible fraudulent or unscientific experiments and from possible harmful effects of weather-control activities. It sets up an Advisory Committee with authority to find out what is going on, to evaluate experiments and make public pronouncements on them, and make recommendations to the Congress as





July 29, 1953

21. WEATHER CONTROL. The Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee reported with amendment S. 285, to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification (H. Rept. 1022)(p. 10649).
22. SUBMERGED LANDS. Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 5134, providing for U. S. jurisdiction over submerged lands in the outer continental shelf, which had been reported from conference earlier in the day (H. Rept. 1031)(pp. 10650, 10630-4).
23. FORESTRY. The Rules Committee reported a resolution for consideration of H. R. 4646, to provide for transfer of Government timber lands to private operators of sustained-yield projects which are taken over for Government projects (p. 10634).
24. FOREIGN TRADE. The Ways and Means Committee reported without amendment H. R. 2763, to reduce the duty on the importation of wood dowels, if made of fir, spruce, hemlock, or larch, and to provide for duty-free importation of unfinished wood dowels (H. Rept. 1044)(p. 10650).
25. MINERALS; PUBLIC LANDS. Received the conference report on S. 2220, to provide certain exemptions from the requirements that pipelines having rights-of-way over public lands must be operated as common carriers (H. Rept. 1032)(pp. 10634-5).
26. DROUGHT-RELIEF APPROPRIATION. Concurred in the Senate amendment to H. J. Res. 305, drought-relief appropriation bill (p. 10555). This bill will now be sent to the President.
27. PENALTY MAIL. Passed as reported H. R. 6231, requiring all Government departments, agencies, etc., to reimburse the Post Office Department in amounts equivalent to the amount of postage on their penalty mail (pp. 19565-6).
28. FARM PROGRAM. Rep. Marshall commended the House Agriculture Committee for planning to hold hearings throughout the country on farm problems after Congress adjourns, favored attendance at these hearings by USDA officials, criticized recent CCC operations as "confidence-shaking," and asked for an adequate farm program (pp. 10640-1).
29. PERSONNEL. Rep. Rogers, Mass., opposed several bills on veterans' benefits, including H. R. 6185, requiring disabled veterans to acquire a passing civil-service grade before adding the preference points (pp. 10645-7).
30. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM. The Majority Leader announced that the Consent and Private Calendars will be considered today, July 30 (p. 10566).

#### BILLS INTRODUCED

31. PENALTY MAIL. S. 2502, by Sen. Frear, to provide for reimbursement of the Post Office Department for penalty mail; to Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Also S. 2503. (p. 10483.)
32. PROPERTY. S. 2505, by Sen. McCarthy, to amend the GSA Act; to Government Operations Committee (p. 10486).
33. BANKING AND CURRENCY. S. 2514, by Sen. McCarran, to establish a sound monetary system, etc.; to Banking and Currency Committee (p. 10488). Remarks of author (pp. 10488-90).



- 34. RECLAMATION. S. 2521, by Sen. Kuchel, to authorize the Interior Department to construct, etc., the Santa Margarita project, Calif.; to Interior and Insular Affairs Committee (p. 10695).
- 35. RECREATION. H. R. 6607, by Rep. Howell, to establish a Federal Recreation Service in the HEW Department; to Education and Labor Committee (p. 10650).

HOUSE (Continued)

- 36. FAMINE RELIEF. Passed with amendments S. 2249, to authorize CCC to make agricultural commodities owned by it available to the President to assist in meeting famine or other urgent relief requirements of peoples friendly to the U. S. (pp. 10597-622). Agreed to an amendment by Rep. Weichel providing that at least 50% of the commodities be shipped in American ships (pp. 10609-10). Rejected an amendment by Rep. Jones to reduce the authorization by \$50 million (pp. 10607-8), and an amendment by Rep. Coudert to delete language providing for repayment to CCC of its investment in surplus commodities to be used (pp. 10613-14). The following language was stricken on a point of order raised by Rep. Jones, No.: "Any assets available to the Commodity Credit Corporation may be used in advance of such appropriations or payments, for carrying out the purposes of this act" (p. 10613). ITEMS IN APPENDIX
- 37. WATER RESOURCES. Extension of remarks of Rep. Johnson, Tex., claiming the real key to continued industrial development of the Southwest lies in greater utilization of the potential water supply (p. A5031).
- 38. PRICE SUPPORTS. Sen. Goldwater inserted an American Agriculturist editorial criticizing price supports (p. A5032).
- 39. IMPORT CONTROLS. Extension of remarks of Rep. Golden urging additional import control by the executive branch (pp. A5042-3).  
Rep. Smith, Miss., inserted a Reporter magazine article opposing high tariffs (pp. A5052-3).
- 40. DROUGHT SITUATION. Sen. Johnson, Tex., inserted a newspaper article describing the drought situation (pp. A5053-4).
- 41. EXPENDITURES. Rep. Coudert inserted Rep. Hoffman's statement favoring H. R. 2, to limit Federal expenditures to receipts (p. A5047).
- 42. BANKING AND CURRENCY. Rep. Horan inserted a newspaper editorial favoring return to the gold standard (p. A5033).

COMMITTEE HEARINGS RELEASED BY G. P. O.

- 43. FOREIGN-AID APPROPRIATION BILL, 1954, H. R. 6391. S. Appropriations Committee.

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For supplemental information and copies of legislative material referred to, call Ext. 4654 or send to Room 105A.

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COMMITTEE HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR JULY 30: Loans on forest tracts, S. Banking and Currency (exec).

## CREATING A COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND EVALUATE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EXPERIMENTS IN WEATHER MODIFICATION

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JULY 29, 1953.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State  
of the Union and ordered to be printed

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Mr. HINSHAW, from the Committee on Interstate and Foreign  
Committee, submitted the following

### R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 285]

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (S. 285) to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

(1) Page 4, line 2 immediately after "the Secretary of the Interior or his designee," insert the following:

the Director of the National Science Foundation or his designee, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare or his designee,.

(2) Page 4, strike out lines 9 through 11 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 5. The President shall appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee. The Chairman shall be appointed from among those persons appointed to the Committee from private life.

(3) Page 4, strike out lines 12 through 16 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 6. The Committee shall hold at least two meetings a year, approximately six months apart, and, on due notice, shall meet at such other times as the Committee may determine. Six members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(4) Page 5, line 7, strike out "\$11,000" and insert in lieu thereof the following: "\$12,000".

(5) Page 8, strike out lines 14 through 23 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall from time to time submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the President for submission to the Congress.



## 2 COMMITTEE TO STUDY WEATHER MODIFICATION EXPERIMENTS

At the earliest possible moment, the Committee shall submit a report to the President for submission to the Congress on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating, by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to engage in activities designed to modify or control the weather. The Committee shall submit a final report to the President for submission to the Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

(b) Thirty days after the Committee has submitted such final report to the President, the Committee shall cease to exist.

### EXPLANATION OF THE AMENDMENTS

First amendment: Page 4, line 2, simply increases the number of Federal agencies represented on the Advisory Committee by the addition of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Director of the National Science Foundation, or their designees.

Second amendment: Page 4, strike out lines 9 through 11 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 5. The President shall appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee. The Chairman shall be appointed from among the persons appointed to the Committee from private life.

It is the thought of the committee that having the President appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman is preferable to having them elected by the Committee.

Third amendment: Page 4, strike out lines 12 through 16 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 6. The Committee shall hold at least two meetings a year, approximately six months apart, and, on due notice, shall meet at such other times as the Committee may determine. Six members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

This amendment is designed to make the requirement of meeting dates less rigid and to provide for six members making a quorum inasmuch as the total number of members has been increased.

Fourth amendment: Page 5, line 7, strike out \$11,000 and insert in lieu thereof "\$12,000".

This amendment was made at the suggestion of the Budget Bureau.

Fifth amendment: Page 8, strike out lines 14 through 23 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall from time to time submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the President for submission to the Congress. At the earliest possible moment, the Committee shall submit a report to the President for submission to the Congress on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating, by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to engage in activities designed to modify or control the weather. The Committee shall submit a final report to the President for submission to the Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

(b) Thirty days after the Committee has submitted such final report to the President, the Committee shall cease to exist.

This amendment is designed to require the Advisory Committee to report to Congress through the President.

### HISTORY OF LEGISLATION

During the 82d Congress, the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives reported S. 2225 (H. Rept. No. 2360). Extensive hearings on S. 2225 were held in the Senate by subcommittees of the following committees: The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, and the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee.

Information developed at those hearings established the importance of the need for legislation dealing with weather modifications. In the light of this information, a new bill was drafted and approved by the above-mentioned subcommittees, and subsequently introduced during the 2d session of the 82d Congress. The Senate Interstate Commerce Committee subsequently reported S. 2225 which was later passed by the Senate and transmitted to the House where it was referred to the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. The latter committee reported favorably on the bill during the last days of the 2d session of the 82d Congress (H. Rept. No. 2360). Because of the rush of business during the closing days of the session, this bill was not acted upon.

S. 285 is identical with the bill that was reported by this committee in the 82d Congress, except that there has been deleted therefrom provisions authorizing weather research by Government agencies and a provision for indemnifying contractors for losses arising as a result of such research.

The five amendments made by the committee are for the purpose of carrying out the specific recommendations of the Bureau of the Budget.

#### NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Nonscientific and pseudoscientific rainmakers have been practicing their art for many years with many fantastic and farfetched devices and theories. The general public has, justifiably, regarded these efforts with skepticism.

However, in recent years, particularly since 1946, some genuinely scientific experiments in weather modification have been made with highly suggestive results; and, though these experiments have been conducted by responsible persons with established scientific reputations, the results have been the subject of controversial interpretations.

Because of doubts and controversy surrounding these experiments, your committee deems it advisable to make several clarifying statements on the subject, based primarily on information developed during the hearings.

1. It appears certain that, given the proper conditions, rainfall can be artificially induced. Rain cannot be produced from non-moisture-bearing skies, but, if the proper weather quantities of moisture and temperature are available, nucleating or seeding agents can be introduced into clouds to cause precipitation. Laboratory and outdoor experiments have repeatedly demonstrated the effectiveness of nucleating agents.

Two important questions, however, remain unanswered:

How often do the proper conditions exist so that favorable seeding opportunities present themselves? and, Will artificial nucleating agents make or increase rainfall in economically important quantities?

2. Rainmaking is a big business. In 1951 1 rainmaking contractor alone had under contract over 300 million acres in the United States, or about 12 times as many acres as those under irrigation in the Nation. Since that time rainmaking activities have received less publicity. But the number and extent of experiments in weather control have not diminished. Instead they have increased and have spread all over the world. Large-scale experiments are being carried on in Canada, Peru, Cuba, Japan, Formosa, India, Australia, Scan-



dinavia, Turkey, Egypt, Arabia, and other countries. In the United States, associations of farmers are sponsoring many of these projects but private corporations, including public-utility companies, sugar- and fruit-growing companies, and an aluminum company, are sponsoring a substantial number of them in this and other countries.

3. If practical, weather control promises tremendous benefits for a small investment. Research work in the field involves no test plants or production facilities and very little expensive equipment. Further, actual rainmaking operations cost little in material and equipment. The seeding agents, carbon dioxide or silver iodide, are inexpensive, yet when used in small quantities they apparently produce weather phenomena of the highest magnitude. If these phenomena cause only a small increase in precipitation, this small increase can be economically important. An inch of extra rain, converted into runoff and concentrated into a reservoir, can produce electric power worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. A small fraction of an inch of extra rain, falling on crops during the period of germination, can greatly increase crop yields. But artificial nucleation may have useful potentialities in addition to that of stimulating rainfall. It may have possibilities for increasing snowpack in mountainous areas, for holding back and "softening" rainstorms, thereby reducing soil erosion, for inhibiting hail, for breaking up hurricanes, and for precipitating out and thereby cutting holes in clouds so that aircraft can operate.

In practically all cases the farmers lack the data and the scientific knowledge that would enable them to determine whether they obtain their money's worth or are simply paying for rain that would fall naturally. They need the protection of independent evaluation of experiments so they can decide whether they should continue to pay large sums of money to rainmaking contractors. This is not to suggest that the Federal Government should evaluate each individual project. It should, however, attempt to establish uniform methods of evaluation, and should collect evaluation reports from a substantial number of projects, so that these can be averaged as the basis for general pronouncements on the effectiveness of weather-control methods.

Farmers and ranchers may also need protection against fraudulent claims and promises, which they may be especially disposed to accept in times of drought, and against weather-control operations that are unskilled or loosely supervised, therefore ineffective and possibly damaging. Furthermore, the general public and certain farmers, requiring less rather than more rain at a given time, may need protection against operations sponsored by other persons that may affect them detrimentally. This is not to propose that the Federal Government should, at this time, arbitrate between different groups affected or seemingly affected by weather-control activities or should regulate and restrict practitioners of the rainmaking art. Further information must be secured before the Federal Government can determine the extent of regulation necessary and desirable, and this information should be secured as soon as possible.

For these reasons your committee believes an Advisory Committee on Weather Control should be established, as provided for in the present bill. This Advisory Committee should collect and organize information about weather-control experiments over a period of several years, should study, evaluate, and make pronouncements on these

experiments; and should report to the Congress from time to time on further legislation which may be necessary and desirable to protect and further the interests of the public.

It was after much consideration that a temporary and independent Advisory Committee was settled on as the best device for studying and evaluating weather-control activities. It was felt that, weather control being an all-embracing matter, the interests of business, science, and agriculture should be represented as well as the interests of the Government. It was felt that any certain department of the Government might have an interest in developing a particular aspect of weather control to the neglect of other aspects. It was felt, further, that the recommendations on future research and legislation of an independent, nongovernmental group might carry more weight before the Congress than those of governmental employees who might be accused, perhaps unfairly, of trying to perpetuate their jobs or enlarge their departments or agencies.

The present bill does not carry provisions authorizing Federal experiments in weather control and allowing for the possible indemnification of contractors performing experiments for the Federal Government, as did the bill reported out by your committee during the 2d session of the 82d Congress.

#### PROVISIONS OF THE BILL

The bill provides for a temporary Advisory Committee on Weather Control comprised of 12 members, including 6 appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate from among persons in private life of outstanding ability in the fields of science, agriculture, and business, and the Secretaries of Defense, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Health, Education and Welfare, Director of the National Science Foundation, or designees. The members from private life shall each receive \$50 per diem when engaged in performance of their duties and shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other expenses.

The Advisory Committee shall have power to appoint and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as may be necessary to carry out its functions, except that the bill provides for 1 executive secretary at a salary not exceeding \$12,000 per annum.

The Advisory Committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the President for transmission to the Congress from time to time making its final report no later than June 30, 1956. Thirty days after submission of this final report, it shall cease to exist.

The Advisory Committee shall have authority to secure information and statistics from Federal agencies; to hold hearings and take testimony; to require the keeping of and, when necessary, the production of records on the part of persons undertaking weather-control experiments. It shall report through the President to the Congress at the earliest possible moment on the advisability of the Government regulating by means of licenses or otherwise the activities of persons attempting to modify the weather.

The bill authorizes appropriations in the amount necessary to carry out the purposes of the act.



## 6 COMMITTEE TO STUDY WEATHER MODIFICATION EXPERIMENTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,  
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,  
Washington 25, D. C., July 27, 1953.

HON. CHARLES A. WOLVERTON,  
*Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,  
House of Representatives, 1334 House Office Building,  
Washington 25, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This will acknowledge your letter of June 10, 1953, inviting the Bureau of the Budget to comment on S. 285, to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

S. 285, in its present form, would establish the Advisory Committee on Weather Control. The committee would be made up of the Secretaries of Defense, Agriculture, Commerce, and Interior, or their respective designees, and five members appointed by the President from private life by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The chairman and a vice chairman would be elected by the committee from among its members appointed from private life. The committee would be authorized to make a study and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather control. The committee would report from time to time. In addition, it would report at the earliest possible moment on the advisability of regulation of activities designed to modify or control weather. The final report of the committee would be by June 30, 1956, and the committee would cease to exist 30 days after the submission of that report.

The Bureau of the Budget recognizes that the problem which the proposed committee would study is one of serious import. We believe that such a study would be the most desirable approach at this time and we see no objection to the establishment of the committee on a temporary basis as proposed in S. 285. We suggest, however, that the Committee give consideration to the following amendments of the bill:

1. We believe that it would be more appropriate for the chairman and vice chairman to be selected by the President instead of by election of the members.

2. We believe that some flexibility would be advisable in the provisions of section 6 which now call for semiannual meetings on the first Mondays in April and October. This would be accomplished, consistent with the apparent intent of the section, by providing for at least 2 meetings a year, approximately 6 months apart.

3. It is suggested that section 10 be amended so as to provide that the reports of findings and recommendations be submitted to the Congress through the President.

4. It is suggested that the maximum compensation for the executive secretary be increased from \$11,000 to \$12,000 so as to better assure competent direction of the committee's staff work.

In addition to the foregoing suggested amendments, the Bureau of the Budget believes the committee may wish to consider the desires of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and the National Science Foundation to be included in membership of the committee. Their views will be expressed in their reports on the bill.

Sincerely yours,

ROWLAND HUGHES, *Assistant Director.*

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION,  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,  
Washington 25, D. C., July 27, 1953.

HON. CHARLES A. WOLVERTON,  
*Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,  
Room 1334, House Office Building, Washington 25, D. C.*

DEAR MR. WOLVERTON: This is in reply to your requests of January 28, February 6, June 10, and June 17, 1953, for reports and comment upon H. R. 1064, H. R. 1584, H. R. 2580, and S. 285. Inasmuch as each of these bills deals with the subject matter of artificial weather modification, we are submitting one report covering all of them.

### I. GENERAL COMMENT

Recent developments in studies of cloud nucleation and in experimental seeding of supercooled clouds indicate that significant artificial modifications of weather may be possible. Current studies, as supplemented by field experimentations, do not afford a satisfactory basis for belief that widespread practical applications of

weather-modification efforts are feasible at the present time. Present knowledge is inadequate for formation of definitive conclusions as to the nature and extent of possible modifications, the means by which they may best be accomplished, and the conditions and circumstances required for successful and beneficial effects. Because of the lack of necessary basic data, much current cloud-seeding activity appears to represent inefficient expenditure and perhaps actual waste of energy and funds.

The greatest need at the present time is for additional basic research in cloud-nucleation processes. Such basic research should go forward both in the laboratory to gain an understanding of the nucleation processes by which moisture condenses, and in the field to investigate natural processes of cloud nucleation. Controlled field experimentation, applying the knowledge thus gained to more effective understanding and practical use of cloud nucleation, is also necessary and desirable.

Insofar as the Federal Government is concerned, the recent scientific developments present certain issues and problems which deserve attention. Further knowledge of natural mechanisms underlying possible modifications of the weather and of potentialities of practical application is of broad interest and significance to several departments and agencies. Such matters as the nature, extent, and distribution of Federal research activities in nucleation processes require careful consideration and are of special interest to the National Science Foundation.

A further problem is presented by the possible need for Federal regulation of weather-modification operations. Current operations have prompted several States to enact regulatory legislation. The potential interstate and international effects of such operations, the need to avoid indiscriminate or deceptive seeding, and the further need to prevent interference with soundly conceived and significant field experimentation are factors which may ultimately impel some exercise of Federal authority. Until such time as more evidence of the practicality of weather modification is available, Federal regulation seems premature. Informal liaison with State regulatory agencies and private operators would perhaps be useful, and would seem to be sufficient to protect Federal interests at the present time.

## II. COMMENT ON S. 285, H. R. 1064, AND H. R. 2580

S. 285, H. R. 1064, and H. R. 2580 appear to have a common objective: To establish an advisory committee to make a complete study and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather control for the purpose of determining the extent to which the United States should experiment with, engage in, or regulate activities designed to control weather conditions; in addition, H. R. 1064 and H. R. 2580 would authorize research and experiments, and such further action as may be necessary to perfect at the earliest possible date, methods of controlling weather for beneficial purposes.

The National Science Foundation endorses these principal objectives. It believes that determination of future Federal policy with respect to weather-modification activities a major need at present. It does not appear to be necessary, however, so far as basic research is concerned, to provide new legal authority for its conduct, since the Foundation's present legal authority is entirely adequate for the purpose. The Foundation does not presume, however, to speak for the other agencies on this point.

However, the Foundation wishes to urge that section 4 of S. 285 and section 3 of H. R. 1064 be amended to insert "the Director of the National Science Foundation or his designee," in conformity with section 3 of H. R. 2580; and that sections 9 (a) and 9 (c) of H. R. 1064 and H. R. 2580 be amended to insert "the Director of the National Science Foundation." As your committee knows, the mission of the Foundation includes primary Federal responsibility for support of basic research through grant and contract and for development of national policies for promotion of basic scientific research. It is from basic research on nucleation mechanisms that greatest future progress in weather modification may be expected. The Foundation has been taking an active interest in basic research in this field for quite some time, and expects to continue to do so. In view of these interests and responsibilities of the National Science Foundation, membership of the Foundation on the Advisory Committee and inclusion of the Foundation among the agencies authorized to support research would seem desirable. Although National Science Foundation membership on the Advisory Committee would increase its membership by 1, and possibly by 2 if another member from private life were added to maintain the present balance between Government and private membership, it does not appear that such an increase would unduly enlarge the Advisory Committee. This seems particularly true in this area of

weather modification in which the paramount importance of basic scientific research makes National Science Foundation membership uniquely appropriate.

I should also like to invite your committee's attention to an existing statutory mechanism for achieving a comprehensive survey of research bearing upon weather modification. Section 3 (a) (7) and (9) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (64 Stat. 149 (42 U. S. C. 1862 (a) (3) and 1868)), provide for the establishment by the Foundation of special commissions to make comprehensive surveys of research being carried on in specified fields and to formulate overall research programs in such fields. The Foundation has been considering the establishment of such a special commission to survey research relating to weather control. We wish to advise your committee that this facility is available, in the thought that your committee may desire to have this knowledge while considering S. 285, H. R. 1064, and H. R. 2580. Such a commission could well provide the mechanism for the research-survey functions envisaged by these bills, leaving the regulatory aspects to the overall committee.

With the amendments proposed above, the National Science Foundation recommends favorable consideration of S. 285, H. R. 1064, and H. R. 2580.

### III. COMMENT ON H. R. 1584

As mentioned previously, the National Science Foundation believes that the licensing and control of weather-modification activities proposed by sections 4 and 8 of H. R. 1584 are premature. In view of the present lack of adequate knowledge for development of a sound regulatory program, and the probable ability of the several States to protect their citizens against deceptive claims or practices, it is believed that regulation is not a serious need at the present time. However, since important field experimentation may ultimately be impeded by indiscriminate, unregulated cloud seeding, it is regarded as desirable that studies of the regulatory problems be initiated at an early date. This could be adequately handled under S. 285, H. R. 1064, or H. R. 2580.

The Foundation also believes that Federal research activities in this field should be considerably broader than those apparently contemplated by section 3 of H. R. 1584. In view of the broad impact of weather-modification activities and the important interest of several agencies in the necessary research, the provisions of section 3 do not appear to be desirable at this time.

Consequently, the National Science Foundation does not recommend favorable action on H. R. 1584.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

C. E. SUNDERLIN, *Acting Director.*





# Union Calendar No. 378

83D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

## S. 285

[Report No. 1022]

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

JULY 29, 1953

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House  
on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Omit the part struck through and insert the part printed in italic]

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## AN ACT

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private  
experiments in weather modification.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3                   STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

4       Research and experimentation in the field of weather  
5       modification and control have attained the stage at which  
6       the application of scientific advances in this field appears  
7       to be practical.

8       The effect of the use of measures for the control of  
9       weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political  
10      structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now



1 be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are  
2 involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that  
3 modification and control of weather, if effective on a large  
4 scale, would cause profound changes in our present way of  
5 life and would result in vast and far-reaching benefits to  
6 agriculture, industry, commerce, and the general welfare  
7 and common defense.

8 While the ultimate extent to which weather modifica-  
9 tion and control may be utilized is speculative, the applica-  
10 tion of such measures without proper safeguards, sufficient  
11 data and accurate information may result in inadequate or  
12 excessive precipitation; may cause catastrophic droughts,  
13 storms, floods, and other phenomena with consequent loss of  
14 life and property, injury to navigable streams and other  
15 channels of interstate and foreign commerce, injury to water  
16 supplies for municipal, irrigation, and industrial purposes, and  
17 injury to sources of hydroelectric power; may otherwise  
18 impede the production and transportation of goods and serv-  
19 ices for domestic consumption and export and for the national  
20 defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general  
21 welfare and common defense.

22 Thorough experimentation and full-scale operations in  
23 weather modification and control will of necessity affect  
24 areas extending across State and possibly across national  
25 boundaries. The Congress, therefore, recognizes that experi-

1 mentation and application of such measures are matters of  
2 national and international concern.

3 Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of  
4 the Congress, in order to effect the maximum benefit which  
5 may result from experiments and operations designed to  
6 modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the  
7 information derived from such activity and to cooperate with  
8 the several States and the duly authorized officials thereof  
9 with respect to such activity, all to the end of encouraging  
10 the intelligent experimentation and the beneficial develop-  
11 ment of weather modification and control, preventing its  
12 harmful and indiscriminate exercise, and fostering sound eco-  
13 nomic conditions in the public interest.

14 CREATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WEATHER CONTROL

15 SEC. 2. There is hereby established a national committee  
16 to be known as the Advisory Committee on Weather Con-  
17 trol (hereinafter called the "Committee").

18 SEC. 3. The Committee shall make a complete study  
19 and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather  
20 control for the purpose of determining the extent to which  
21 the United States should experiment with, engage in, or  
22 regulate activities designed to control weather conditions.

23 SEC. 4. The Committee shall be composed of the  
24 Secretary of Defense or his designee, the Secretary of Agri-  
25 culture or his designee, the Secretary of Commerce or his

1 designee, the Secretary of the Interior or his designee, *the*  
2 *Director of the National Science Foundation or his designee,*  
3 *the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare or his*  
4 *designee,* and five members appointed by the President, by  
5 and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from among  
6 persons in private life of outstanding ability in the fields of  
7 science, agriculture, and business. A vacancy in the Com-  
8 mittee shall not affect its powers but shall be filled in the  
9 same manner that the original appointment was made.

10       SEC. 5. The Committee shall elect a Chairman and a  
11 Vice Chairman from among its members, the Chairman to  
12 be elected from among those appointed from private life.

13       SEC. 5. *The President shall appoint the Chairman and*  
14 *Vice Chairman of the Committee. The Chairman shall be*  
15 *appointed from among those persons appointed to the Com-*  
16 *mittee from private life.*

17       SEC. 6. The Committee shall meet semiannually on the  
18 first Monday in April and the first Monday in October, and,  
19 on due notice, at such other times as the Committee may  
20 determine. Five members of the Committee shall constitute  
21 a quorum.

22       SEC. 6. *The Committee shall hold at least two meetings*  
23 *a year, approximately six months apart, and, on due notice,*  
24 *shall meet at such other times as the Committee may deter-*



1 *mine. Six members of the Committee shall constitute a*  
2 *quorum.*

3 SEC. 7. The members of the Committee who are in the  
4 executive branch of the Government shall receive no addi-  
5 tional compensation for their services on the Committee.  
6 The members from private life shall each receive \$50 per  
7 diem when engaged in the performance of duties vested in  
8 the Committee. All members of the Committee shall be  
9 reimbursed in accordance with the Travel Expense Act of  
10 1949, as amended, for travel, subsistence, and other neces-  
11 sary expenses incurred by them in the performance of duties  
12 vested in the Committee.

13 SEC. 8. The Committee shall have power to appoint  
14 and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as  
15 may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Committee,  
16 including one executive secretary at a salary not exceeding  
17 ~~\$11,000~~ \$12,000 per annum. Officers and employees other  
18 than the executive secretary shall be appointed in accordance  
19 with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except that  
20 to the extent the Committee deems such action necessary to  
21 the discharge of its responsibilities, personnel for positions  
22 requiring scientific or special qualifications may be employed  
23 and their compensation fixed without regard to such laws.



1 The Committee shall make adequate provision for adminis-  
2 trative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

3 SEC. 9. (a) The Committee, or any member thereof,  
4 may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this  
5 Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and  
6 places, and take such testimony as the Committee shall deem  
7 advisable. Any member of the Committee may administer  
8 oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the  
9 Committee or before such member.

10 (b) The Committee is authorized to secure directly  
11 from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, com-  
12 mission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality  
13 information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics, for the pur-  
14 pose of this Act; and each such department, bureau, agency,  
15 board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is  
16 authorized and directed to furnish such information, sugges-  
17 tions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Committee, upon  
18 request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

19 (c) The Committee may, with the consent of the agency  
20 concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the  
21 personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

22 (d) (1) The Committee shall be entitled by regulation,  
23 subpoena, or otherwise, to obtain such information from, re-  
24 quire such reports and the keeping of such records by, and  
25 make such inspection of the books, records, and other writ-

ings, premises or property of, any person as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Act, but this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and authoritative data are available from any Federal agency. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena served upon, any person referred to in this subsection, the district court of the United States for any district in which such person is found or resides or transacts business, upon application by the Committee, shall have jurisdiction to issue an order requiring such person to appear and give testimony or to appear and produce documents, or both; and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

(2) The production of a person's books, records, or other documentary evidence shall not be required at any place other than the place where such person usually keeps them, if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, subpoena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the information contained in such books, records, or other documentary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and

1 mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United  
2 States.

3 (3) Any person who willfully performs any act pro-  
4 hibited or willfully fails to perform any act required by the  
5 above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation,  
6 or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more  
7 than \$500 for each offense.

8 (4) Information obtained under this Act which the  
9 Committee deems confidential for purposes of national  
10 security or other reasons or with reference to which a  
11 request for confidential treatment is made by the person  
12 or agency furnishing such information, shall not be published  
13 or disclosed unless the Committee determines that the with-  
14 holding thereof is contrary to the purposes of this Act,  
15 and any member or employee of the Committee willfully  
16 violating this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not  
17 more than \$5,000.

18 (e) The Committee shall be entitled to the free use of  
19 the United States mails in the same manner as the other  
20 executive agencies of the Government.

21 SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall report its find-  
22 ings and recommendations to the Congress from time to time.  
23 Particularly it shall report, at the earliest possible moment,  
24 on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating,  
25 by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to



1 engage in activities designed to modify or control the  
2 weather. The Committee shall make a final report to the  
3 Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

4 ~~(b)~~ Thirty days after the submission to the Congress  
5 of such final report, the Committee shall cease to exist.

6 *SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall from time to time*  
7 *submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the*  
8 *President for submission to the Congress. At the earliest*  
9 *possible moment, the Committee shall submit a report to the*  
10 *President for submission to the Congress on the advisability*  
11 *of the Federal Government regulating, by means of licenses*  
12 *or otherwise, those who attempt to engage in activities de-*  
13 *signed to modify or control the weather. The Committee shall*  
14 *submit a final report to the President for submission to the*  
15 *Congress not later than June 30, 1956.*

16 *(b) Thirty days after the Committee has submitted such*  
17 *final report to the President, the Committee shall cease to*  
18 *exist.*

19 *SEC. 11. There are authorized to be appropriated, from*  
20 *any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated,*  
21 *such sum as the Congress may from time to time deem*  
22 *necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.*

Passed the Senate June 8, 1953.

Attest:

J. MARK TRICE,  
*Secretary.*



83d CONGRESS  
1st Session

S. 285

[Report No. 1022]

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## AN ACT

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To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

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JUNE 9, 1953

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign  
Commerce

JULY 29, 1953

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed





July 31, 1953

14. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1954. Received the conference report on this bill, H. R. 6200 (pp. 11005-7). The conferees fixed the corn acreage allotment item at \$5,000,000 and reported in disagreement the provision continuing drought-relief funds of Public Law 371, 82nd Cong.
15. WEATHER CONTROL. Passed as reported S. 285, to establish an Advisory Committee on Weather Control to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather control for the purpose of determining the extent to which the U. S. should experiment with, engage in, or regulate weather control (pp. 10930-2).
16. RECLAMATION. Passed with amendments H. R. 5731, to authorize the Santa Margarita River project, Calif. (pp. 10940-1).
17. GRAZING LANDS. Rep. D'Ewart spoke in support of the stockmen's grazing bill and said Rep. Hope was introducing a modified bill on this subject which has the support of various interested parties (p. 10930).
17. RECLAMATION. Rep. D'Ewart recommended the establishment of various additional reclamation projects (p. 10930).
- SENATE - July 31
18. FOREIGN AID; REORGANIZATION. Sen. Mansfield criticized the President's reorganization plan establishing a Foreign Operations Administration (pp. 10899-901).
19. DEBT LIMIT. Discussed the President's request for an increase in the debt limit (pp. 10903-8).

SENATE - August 1, 1953

20. FCA REORGANIZATION. Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 4353, to reorganize the Farm Credit Administration, etc. (p. 11040). This bill will now be sent to the President.
21. FAMINE RELIEF. Agreed to the conference report on S. 2249, the famine-relief bill (p. 11044). This bill will now be sent to the President.
22. SAFETY. Agreed to the conference report on S. 1105, to incorporate the National Safety Council (p. 11049). This bill will now be sent to the President.
23. IMMIGRATION. Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 6481, to authorize immigration of 214,000 refugees, etc. (pp. 11073-7). This bill will now be sent to the President.
24. CROP INSURANCE. Concurred in the House amendments to S. 1367, to continue the authority for expansion of the crop insurance program to additional counties (p. 11044). This bill will now be sent to the President.
25. RECLAMATION. Concurred in the House amendments to S. 2097, to increase the amount authorized for the Eklutna, Alaska, project (pp. 11048-9). This bill will now be sent to the President.
26. WEATHER CONTROL. Concurred in the House amendments to S. 285, to authorize a study of weather-control activities, etc. (p. 11048). This bill will now be sent to the President.
27. RECLAMATION. Concurred in the House amendments to S. 887, to permit the exchange and amendment of farm units on Federal irrigation projects (pp. 11049, 11083-4). This bill will now be sent to the President.



28. FARM LABOR. Agreed to the conference report on H. R. 3480, to continue the Mexican farm-labor program for two years (p. 11090).
29. FARM LOANS. Passed as reported S. 1276, to increase the interest rate on farm-tenant loans (pp. 11097, 11104-5).
30. NOMINATION OF Harold E. Stassen, to be Director of Foreign Operations Administration, was confirmed (p. 11136).
31. DEBT LIMIT. The Finance Committee voted to defer further action until the next session of Congress on H. R. 6672, to increase the statutory debt limit (p. 11030).
32. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Passed without amendment H. R. 6382, to extend until June 30, 1954, the period during which GSA may conduct negotiated sales of surplus property (p. 11054). This bill will now be sent to the President.
33. PENALTY MAIL. Passed without amendment H. R. 6281, to require executive departments, etc., to reimburse the Post Office Department for penalty mail (pp. 11078-9). This bill will now be sent to the President.
34. FOREST LOANS. Passed without amendment H. R. 5603, to authorize national banking associations to make loans on forest tracts (pp. 11070-2). This bill will now be sent to the President.
35. EDUCATION. Passed with amendments H. R. 6073 and 6079, to assist school districts in federally affected areas, and Senate conferees were appointed (pp. 11054-66).
36. SOCIAL SECURITY. Both Houses received the President's message recommending inclusion of additional groups, including farmers, in the Social Security Act (H. Doc. 225); to Senate Finance Committee and House Ways and Means Committee (pp. 11213, 11134).
37. STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE APPROPRIATION BILL, 1954. Sen. McCarthy was appointed as an additional conferee on this bill, H. R. 4974 (p. 11035).
38. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1954. Rejected the conference report on this bill, H. R. 6200. Senate conferees were appointed for a further conference. (pp. 11097-104)
39. FARM PROGRAM. Sen. Aiken inserted a letter from Secretary Benson reviewing the studies now under way and stating, "The objective of our study is to have ready for Congress, when it reconvenes, judgments and recommendations that will be helpful in improving farm legislation." (pp. 11036-7.)
40. STORAGE FACILITIES. Sen. Murray asked additional USDA action to make available more wheat-storage facilities (pp. 11037-40).
41. TRANSPORTATION. Sen. Griswold inserted a Farm Bureau letter favoring H. R. 3203, the trip-leasing bill (pp. 11049-50).
42. FORESTRY. Passed without amendment H. R. 3956, to provide for conveyance of a tract in the Santa Fe National Forest, N. Mex. (p. 11052). This bill will now be sent to the President.
43. TREATY POWERS. Sen. Bricker spoke in support of his resolution to limit treaty powers and criticized the Knowland substitute (pp. 11090-7).



the necessity for a cooperative partnership of the States and local communities, private citizens, and the Federal Government in carrying out a sound natural resources program.

In addition to the immediate danger of waste resulting from inadequate conservation measures, we must bear in mind the needs of a growing population and an expanding economy. At present we are faced with excess reserves of some agricultural commodities and the need for production adjustments to gear our agricultural economy to current demands. But in the long run, we shall need to give increased attention to the improvement and reclamation of land in its broadest aspects, including soil productivity, irrigation, drainage, and the replenishing of ground water reserves, if we are adequately to feed and clothe our people, to provide gainful employment, and to continue to improve our standard of living.

Our basic problem is to carry forward the tradition of conservation, improvement, and wise use and development of our land and water resources—a policy initiated 50 years ago under the leadership of President Theodore Roosevelt. To do this within the framework of a sound fiscal policy and in the light of defense needs will require the maximum cooperation among the States and local communities, farmers, businessmen, and other private citizens, and the Federal Government. It will require the development of clear guidelines to be established by the Congress as to the proper functions of the Federal Government. It will require the revitalization of renewable resources by users who should be entitled to reasonable assurances in connection with authorized uses. It will require adherence to sound principles for the financing and the sharing of the cost of multiple-purpose land and water resource development. It will require improved Federal organization to accomplish a more logical division of responsibilities among the various Federal agencies in order that resource development programs may be carried on with the greatest efficiency and the least duplication. And it will require comprehensive river basin planning with the cooperation of State and local interests.

This administration is moving ahead in the formulation of sound organization and improved policies for the use of our soil, our public lands, and our water resources. I have requested, and the Congress has granted through Reorganization Plan No. 2, increased authority for the Secretary of Agriculture to improve the organization of the Department of Agriculture. I have recently established by Executive order a National Agricultural Advisory Commission. A review is being made of the basic power policies of the Federal Government in connection with multiple-purpose river basin development as it relates to private economic development. The Corps of Engineers is making a study of the basis for State and local financial participation in local flood protection works. There are under detailed study various proposals for dealing with the complicated problems

of overlapping and duplicative authority among the several resource development agencies. And the Bureau of the Budget and the resource agencies are reviewing the present standards and procedures for evaluation and cost allocation of water resource development projects.

It is fortunate that today there is a growing recognition on the part of land users and the public generally of the need to strengthen conservation in our upstream watersheds and to minimize flood damage. Inadequate conservation measures and unsound land use patterns vastly increase the danger of loss of valuable topsoil from wind erosion in time of subnormal rainfall and from water erosion in time of floods.

This should be done as an integral part of our total flood control and water use program. In our past efforts to better utilize our water resources, to control floods and to prevent loss of life and property, we have made large investments on the major waterways of the Nation. Yet we have tended to neglect the serious waste involved in the loss of topsoil from the Nation's farms and the clogging of our streams and channels which results from erosion on the upper reaches of the small streams and tributaries of the Nation's rivers.

It is important, too, for groups of farmers banded together in local organizations, such as soil conservation districts and watershed associations, to take the initiative, with the technical advice and guidance of the appropriate Federal and State agencies in developing adequate plans for proper land use and resource improvement in watersheds throughout the Nation. As these plans are prepared and local agreement and cooperation are assured, I believe that we should move ahead in the construction of works of improvement and the installation of land treatment measures as rapidly as possible consistent with a sound overall fiscal program.

As we move forward in a cooperative and coordinated soil and water conservation program we must not overlook the essential role played by the Federal Government in the management of public lands. Approximately 50 percent of the land area of the Western States is owned and managed by a number of Federal agencies. The National Park Service administers parks and monuments having national significance. The Forest Service administers the national forests, with their valuable timberlands and grazing resources, and in cooperation with State and local interests protects critical watersheds. The Bureau of Reclamation and the Corps of Engineers manage lands in connection with water resource projects built by these agencies. Fish and wildlife are protected by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The Bureau of Indian Affairs administers Indian lands, and the great public domain remaining is administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

The Federal Government has a responsibility to manage wisely those public lands and forests under its jurisdiction necessary in the interest of the public as a whole. Important values exist in these

lands for forest and mineral products, grazing, fish and wildlife, and for recreation. Moreover, it is imperative to the welfare of thousands of communities and millions of acres of irrigated land that such lands be managed to protect the water supply and water quality which come from them. In the utilization of these lands, the people are entitled to expect that their timber, minerals, streams and water supply, wildlife and recreational values should be safeguarded, improved, and made available not only for this but for future generations. At the same time, public lands should be made available for their best use under conditions that promote stability for communities and individuals and encourage full development of the resources involved.

While, as I have indicated, our major problem is to carry forward a tradition of improvement and conservation of our natural resources, the best means of achieving this objective depends on keeping up with changing conditions. For example, the problems of water-resource development in the West are undergoing considerable change. The pattern of western growth has broadened substantially in recent years. Industrial expansion has been extensive and varied. Increased activities in mineral and fuel processing have occurred. Urban expansion has been well above the national average in many communities. These developments have brought about strong competition for existing water supplies and have stimulated the need for a broader approach in planning new water-resource developments. As a consequence, the Federal role in the cooperative development of these resources should now be reexamined in the interest of achieving a better balanced program for western growth.

Conserving and improving our land and water resources is high priority business for all of us. It is the purpose of this administration to present to the next session of the Congress suitable recommendations for achieving the objectives set forth in this message. I am confident that the studies of governmental organization and functions authorized by this Congress can also make an important contribution to the solution of these problems. As the Congress moves ahead on a constructive legislative program in the resource field, it will have my full support and cooperation. We must build a balanced program for the use and development of all our natural resources. Such a program is indispensable to maintaining and improving our standard of living as we make the future secure for a growing America.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 31, 1953.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF  
UNITED STATES PARTICIPATION  
IN UNITED NATIONS—MESSAGE  
FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 222)

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States, which was



read, and together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered printed with illustrations:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I transmit herewith, pursuant to the United Nations Participation Act, the seventh annual report, covering the year 1952, on United States participation in the United Nations. Senators WILEY and GREEN, as members of the United States delegation to the seventh session of the General Assembly, have already given you their reports on that part of the session that took place in 1952.

On my inauguration I stated that we would strive to make the United Nations "not merely an eloquent symbol but an effective force," and in my message to the seventh session of the General Assembly when it reconvened in February of this year I said:

"The United Nations has already accomplished much. I hope it will grow in strength and become an increasingly effective instrument of peace."

Therefore, though the report for 1952 describes developments in a period before this administration took office, I commend it to your careful attention for such guidance on our future course of action toward this goal as may be drawn from past experience.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 31, 1953.

#### GRAZING PROBLEMS

(Mr. D'EWART asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD.)

Mr. D'EWART. Mr. Speaker, those of us who live in the States where our great natural resources are largely undeveloped are much encouraged by the message sent to Congress today by the President of the United States. He calls attention to the wise use and conservation of the great natural resources of our Nation—soil, water, grass, timber, and minerals. He states:

Our basic problem is to carry forward the tradition of conservation, improvement, and wise use and development of our land and water resources—a policy initiated 50 years ago under the leadership of President Theodore Roosevelt. To do this within the framework of a sound fiscal policy and in the light of defense needs will require the maximum cooperation among the States and local communities, farmers, businessmen and other private citizens, and the Federal Government. It will require the development of clear guidelines to be established by the Congress as to the proper functions of the Federal Government. It will require the revitalization of renewable resources by users who should be entitled to reasonable assurances in connection with authorized uses. It will require adherence to sound principles for the financing and the sharing of the cost of multiple-purpose land and water resource development. It will require improved Federal organization to accomplish a more logical division of responsibilities among the various Federal agencies in order that resource development programs may be carried on with the greatest efficiency and the least duplication. And it will require comprehensive river basin planning with the cooperation of State and local interests.

In these words, the President has outlined a program for constructive development and use of our great natural resources.

Earlier in this session, I introduced a bill known as the Uniform Grazing bill. This legislation drew a large amount of fire—not so much because of what it contained, but because of the fear engendered by those who had not carefully read the proposal. Hearings were held on this bill, following which it was decided to try to draft a bill which would have the support of the Department of Agriculture and groups who had expressed opposition to some of the provisions of the original bill at the hearings.

The new bill which will be introduced today by Senator AIKEN in the Senate and Congressman HOPE in this body is not a uniform grazing bill, but does deal with grazing problems in the Department of Agriculture. In the drafting of this legislation, we have had the cooperation of Senator AIKEN, Senator BARRETT, Congressman HOPE, and his staff, the Forest Service, and others vitally concerned in the sound use and management of our water and grass resources. This bill is being introduced today so that there will be an opportunity to thoroughly examine it before congressional action next session. It does not provide for uniform management of grazing lands under the jurisdiction of the various departments of the Federal Government. Perhaps future legislation, as proposed in the President's message, can take care of this situation. This bill does, however, carry out many of the principles enunciated in the President's message.

Those of us interested in the wise management of the water, soil, and grass resources welcome suggestions for improvement of this new bill.

#### RECLAMATION PROJECTS

(Mr. D'EWART asked and was given permission to extend his remarks at this point in the RECORD.)

Mr. D'EWART. Mr. Speaker, today the President sent Congress a message concerning the development and management of our natural resources, water, soil, grass, minerals, forests, and wildlife. This is in the nature of a policy to be followed by the present administration in dealing with these resources and as a guide to future legislation.

In the last paragraph of the message, the President says:

As the Congress moves ahead on a constructive legislative program in the resource field, it will have my full support and cooperation. We must build a balanced program for the use and development of all our natural resources. Such a program is indispensable to maintaining and improving our standard of living as we make the future secure for a growing America.

One of the major branches of this program is reclamation and, after discussion with the National Reclamation Association and several Members of the House from the Western States, I would like to suggest for the consideration of the

executive and legislative branches of the Government the following new projects for the Bureau of Reclamation, which are now ready for construction:

Colorado: Collbran.....	\$800,000
Texas: Canadian River.....	2,000,000
Missouri River Basin—Phase B, ready for construction:	
Montana:	
Yellowtail unit, lower Bighorn division .....	5,000,000
Helena Valley unit, Helena- Great Falls division.....	600,000
Moorhead, low dam, Powder River .....	500,000
Nebraska:	
Sargent unit, Middle Loup di- vision .....	1,800,000
Ainsworth unit, Sand Hills di- vision .....	750,000
North Dakota: Cannonball unit, Cannonball division .....	55,000
Wyoming:	
Hanover unit, Bighorn Basin division .....	675,000
Glendo unit, Oregon Trail di- vision .....	5,000,000
Kaycee unit, Powder division.....	600,000
Kansas: Kirwin unit, irrigation, Solomon division.....	500,000

In addition, the legislative committees of the Congress should give thought to projects being prepared for construction. I would like to offer the following as a program for consideration during the next session of Congress. I fully realize these suggestions are not complete, but again they are offered after consulting with the National Reclamation Association representatives and various Members of Congress from the Western States who are interested in the development of reclamation:

California: Santa Maria.  
Colorado: Frying pan-Arkansas; San Luis Valley; Narrows unit, North Platte division.  
Kansas: Lovewell Dam.  
New Mexico: Carlsbad (Alamagordo Dam Spillway).  
Washington: Foster Creek division, Chief Joseph.

#### GENERAL LEAVE TO EXTEND REMARKS

Mr. TABER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members who spoke on the conference report just agreed to may have permission to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. TABER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations may have until midnight tonight to file conference reports.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York [Mr. TABER]?

There was no objection.

#### COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND EVALUATE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EXPERIMENTS IN WEATHER MODIFICATION

Mr. HINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate



consideration of the bill (S. 285) to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.—*

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

Research and experimentation in the field of weather modification and control have attained the stage at which the application of scientific advances in this field appears to be practical.

The effect of the use of measures for the control of weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that modification and control of weather, if effective on a large scale, would cause profound changes in our present way of life and would result in vast and far-reaching benefits to agriculture, industry, commerce, and the general welfare and common defense.

While the ultimate extent to which weather modification and control may be utilized is speculative, the application of such measures without proper safeguards, sufficient data and accurate information may result in inadequate or excessive precipitation; may cause catastrophic droughts, storms, floods, and other phenomena with consequent loss of life and property, injury to navigable streams and other channels of interstate and foreign commerce, injury to water supplies for municipal, irrigation, and industrial purposes, and injury to sources of hydroelectric power; may otherwise impede the production and transportation of goods and services for domestic consumption and export and for the national defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general welfare and common defense.

Through experimentation and full-scale operations in weather modification and control will of necessity affect areas extending across State and possibly across national boundaries. The Congress, therefore recognizes that experimentation and application of such measures are matters of national and international concern.

Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress, in order to effect the maximum benefit which may result from experiments and operations designed to modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the information derived from such activity and to cooperate with the several States and the duly authorized officials thereof with respect to such activity, all to the end of encouraging the intelligent experimentation and the beneficial development of weather modification and control, preventing its harmful and indiscriminate exercise, and fostering sound economic conditions in the public interest.

#### CREATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WEATHER CONTROL

SEC. 2. There is hereby established a national committee to be known as the Advisory Committee on Weather Control (hereinafter called the "Committee").

SEC. 3. The Committee shall make a complete study and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather control for the purpose of determining the extent to which the United States should experiment with, engage in, or regulate activities designed to control weather conditions.

SEC. 4. The Committee shall be composed of the Secretary of Defense or his designee, the Secretary of Agriculture or his designee,

the Secretary of Commerce or his designee, the Secretary of the Interior or his designee, and five members appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from among persons in private life of outstanding ability in the fields of science, agriculture, and business. A vacancy in the committee shall not affect its powers but shall be filled in the same manner that the original appointment was made.

SEC. 5. The Committee shall elect a chairman and a vice chairman from among its members, the chairman to be elected from among those appointed from private life.

SEC. 6. The Committee shall meet semi-annually on the first Monday in April and the first Monday in October, and, on due notice, at such other times as the committee may determine. Five members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

SEC. 7. The members of the committee who are in the executive branch of the Government shall receive no additional compensation for their services on the Committee. The members from private life shall each receive \$50 per diem when engaged in the performance of duties vested in the Committee. All members of the Committee shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Travel Expense Act of 1949, as amended, for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of duties vested in the Committee.

SEC. 8. The Committee shall have power to appoint and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Committee, including one executive secretary at a salary not exceeding \$11,000 per annum. Officers and employees other than the executive secretary shall be appointed in accordance with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except that to the extent the Committee deems such action necessary to the discharge of its responsibilities, personnel for positions requiring scientific or special qualifications may be employed and their compensation fixed without regard to such laws. The Committee shall make adequate provision for administrative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

SEC. 9. (a) The Committee, or any member thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and places, and take such testimony as the Committee shall deem advisable. Any member of the Committee may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the Committee or before such member.

(b) The Committee is authorized to secure directly from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics, for the purpose of this act; and each such department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is authorized and directed to furnish such information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Committee, upon request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

(c) The Committee may, with the consent of the agency concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

(d) (1) The Committee shall be entitled by regulation, subpoena, or otherwise, to obtain such information from, require such reports and the keeping of such records by, and make such inspection of the books, records, and other writings, premises or property of, any person as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this act, but this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and authoritative data are available from any Federal agency. In

case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena served upon, any person referred to in this subsection, the district court of the United States for any district in which such person is found or resides or transacts business, upon application by the Committee, shall have jurisdiction to issue an order requiring such person to appear and give testimony or to appear and produce documents, or both; and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

(2) The production of a person's books, records, or other documentary evidence shall not be required at any place other than the place where such person usually keeps them, if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, subpoena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the information contained in such books, records, or other documentary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States.

(3) Any person who willfully performs any act prohibited or willfully fails to perform any act required by the above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation, or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more than \$500 for each offense.

(4) Information obtained under this act which the Committee deems confidential for purposes of national security or other reasons or with reference to which a request for confidential treatment is made by the person or agency furnishing such information, shall not be published or disclosed unless the Committee determines that the withholding thereof is contrary to the purposes of this act, and any member or employee of the Committee willfully violating this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$5,000.

(e) The Committee shall be entitled to the free use of the United States mails in the same manner as the other executive agencies of the Government.

SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall report its findings and recommendations to the Congress from time to time. Particularly it shall report, at the earliest possible moment, on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating, by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to engage in activities designed to modify or control the weather. The Committee shall make a final report to the Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

(b) Thirty days after the submission to the Congress of such final report, the Committee shall cease to exist.

SEC. 11. There are authorized to be appropriated, from any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sum as the Congress may from time to time deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

With the following committee amendments:

Page 4, line 1, after the word "designee", insert: "the Director of the National Science Foundation or his designee, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare or his designee."

Page 4, strike out lines 10, 11, and 12, and insert the following:

"SEC. 5. The President shall appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee. The Chairman shall be appointed from among those persons appointed to the Committee from private life."

Page 4, strike out lines 17, 18, 19, and 21 and insert:

"SEC. 6. The Committee shall hold at least two meetings a year, approximately 6 months



apart, and, on due notice, shall meet at such other times as the Committee may determine. Six members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum."

Page 5, line 17, strike out "\$11,000" and insert: "\$12,000."

Page 8, strike out lines 21 to 25 and on page 9 lines 1 to 5 and insert the following:

"SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall from time to time submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the President for submission to the Congress. At the earliest possible moment, the Committee shall submit a report to the President for submission to the Congress on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating, by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to engage in activities designed to modify or control the weather. The Committee shall submit a final report to the President for submission to the Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

"(b) Thirty days after the Committee has submitted such final report to the President, the Committee shall cease to exist."

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### JEFFERSON NATIONAL EXPANSION MEMORIAL

Mr. LECOMPTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (H. R. 6549) to provide for the construction of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial at the site of old St. Louis, Mo., in general accordance with the plan approved by the United States Territorial Expansion Memorial Commission, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

Mr. HOFFMAN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, what is this bill all about?

Mr. LECOMPTE. Mr. Speaker, this is a bill that will authorize the Federal Government to proceed with a contract with the city of St. Louis for a memorial at St. Louis, Mo., but without expense to the Government at this time. This bill will not cost the Government anything unless later on appropriations are made. There is an agreement in the report that at no time will the friends of this memorial make a request for an appropriation until the Federal budget is in balance.

Mr. HOFFMAN of Michigan. What is the estimated future appropriation?

Mr. LECOMPTE. The estimated future appropriations might run to four or five million dollars.

Mr. GROSS. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, does the gentleman from Iowa think the budget ever will be in balance?

Mr. LECOMPTE. This bill will not cost the Government a cent until the budget is in balance. If the passage of this bill results in a balanced budget at an early date the bill is truly a gift from heaven.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. LECOMPTE]?

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That there is hereby authorized to be constructed by the Secretary of the Interior upon the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial National Historic Site, St. Louis, Mo., an appropriate national memorial to those persons who made possible the territorial expansion of the United States, including President Thomas Jefferson and his aides, Livingston, and Monroe, who negotiated the Louisiana Purchase, the great explorers, Lewis and Clark, and the hardy hunters, trappers, frontiersmen, pioneers, and others who contributed to such expansion.

SEC. 2. (a) The memorial authorized herein shall be constructed in general, in accordance with the plan approved by the United States Territorial Expansion Memorial Commission on May 25, 1948. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to enter into such contracts as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. The Secretary is also authorized to employ, in his discretion, by contract or otherwise, landscape architects, architects, engineers, sculptors, artists, other expert consultants, or firms, partnerships, or associations thereof, and to include in any such contract provision for the utilization of the services and facilities, and the payment of the travel and other expenses, of their respective organizations, in accordance with the usual customs of the several professions and at the prevailing rates for such services and facilities, without regard to the civil-service laws or regulations, the Classification Act of 1949, section 3709 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, or any other law or regulation relating to either employment or compensation.

(b) The Secretary of the Interior, in connection with the construction and operation of the memorial, is authorized to grant such easements as are in the public interest, and, in his discretion, to convey to the city of St. Louis for above-ground parking structures, under such terms and conditions as he may consider to be compatible with maintaining the integrity, appearance, and purposes of said memorial, such portion of the historic site as may in his judgment be excluded therefrom without detriment thereto, subject, however, to reversion of such portion of the historic site to the United States if such excluded area ceases to be used for parking purposes by said city.

(c) The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to grant easements for the purpose of erecting underground structures suitable for public protection under such terms and conditions as he may consider to be compatible with maintaining the integrity, appearance, and purposes of said memorial.

SEC. 3. The memorial project authorized herein shall not be undertaken until there shall have been reached an agreement satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior providing for the relocation of the railroad tracks and structures now situated on lands adjacent to the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial National Historic Site, between the boundary of the site and the river. Such agreement shall contain such terms as may be deemed desirable by the Secretary but shall contain a provision limiting the Federal expenditure of funds in connection with such relocation of the tracks and structures to work undertaken within the historic site area.

SEC. 4. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated not to exceed \$5 million to complete certain elements of the memorial as authorized by this act. These elements are specifically described as (1) railroad relocation, \$1,875,000; (2) grading and filling, \$1,125,000; (3) landscaping, \$500,000; (4) paved areas, utilities, and so forth, \$900,000;

and (5) restoration of Old Courthouse, \$600,000. Funds authorized to be appropriated by this act shall be expended by the United States for construction of the memorial in the ratio of \$3 of Federal funds for each \$1 of money contributed hereafter by the city of St. Louis or other non-Federal source for purposes of the memorial, and for such purposes the Secretary is authorized to accept from the said city or other non-Federal sources, and to utilize for purposes of this act, any money so contributed: *Provided*, That the value of any land hereafter contributed by the city of St. Louis shall be excluded from the computation of the city's share.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1938

Mr. HOPE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H. R. 6665) to amend certain provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, relating to cotton-marketing quotas.

The Clerk read as follows:

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That section 342 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, is amended as follows:

(a) By striking out "1950" and inserting in lieu thereof "1954."

(b) By striking out the word "twenty-one" and inserting in lieu thereof "twenty-two and one-half."

SEC. 2. Section 344 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, is amended as follows:

(a) By striking out the period at the end of subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof a colon and adding the following: "*Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of this act, no State acreage allotment for 1954 shall be reduced below the acreage planted to cotton in the State in 1952 by more than 29½ percent and the additional acreage so required shall be in addition to the national acreage allotment and the production from such acreage shall be in addition to the national marketing quota. The provisions of this subsection relating to 1954 only shall not apply in the establishment of acreage allotments and marketing quotas for extra long staple cotton under section 347 of this act."

(b) By changing subsection (e) by inserting after the words "and conditions" the language "(except those relating only to 1954)" and by striking the period at the end of such subsection and inserting in lieu thereof a comma and adding "or to correct inequities in farm allotments and to prevent hardship."

(c) By striking out in subsection (f) (3) the colon before the word "*Provided*" and inserting in lieu thereof a comma and adding "or in making adjustments in farm acreage allotments to correct inequities and to prevent hardship."

(d) By adding two new paragraphs "(6)" and "(7)" at the end of subsection (f) to read as follows:

"(6) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, if the county committee recommends such action and the Secretary determines that such action will result in a more equitable distribution of the county allotment among farms in the county, the county acreage allotment, less the acreage reserved under paragraph (3) of this subsection, shall be apportioned to farms on which cotton has



Mr. McCARRAN. A Senator, when traveling, takes \$9 a day for expenses. He takes the \$9 whether he spends it or not. A judge receives a maximum of \$25 a day, and he must itemize his expenses. They must be less than \$25 a day.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. But a Senator cannot receive more than \$9 a day for expenses when traveling on official business for the Senate.

Mr. McCARRAN. That is correct.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. But under this House amendment a judge can receive up to \$25 a day?

Mr. McCARRAN. That is correct. If a judge is called from his home on a long trial, he may be away from home for several months. It has always been the law that he could draw up to \$10 a day.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. But the House amendment increases it from \$10 to \$25 a day?

Mr. McCARRAN. The maximum is \$25, under the new bill. The limit was \$10, previously.

Mr. LANGER. Mr. President, will the Senator from Nevada yield further?

Mr. McCARRAN. I yield.

Mr. LANGER. Does the bill apply to all Federal judges?

Mr. McCARRAN. It includes any Federal judge who has to go away from his office.

Mr. LANGER. Does it include judges of the Customs Court?

Mr. McCARRAN. Not only them; all Federal judges.

Mr. LANGER. Would it include judges of the Court of Patent Appeals?

Mr. McCARRAN. I would not want to answer that question positively, because I am not certain about it. I do think they are included.

Mr. SMATHERS. Mr. President, a parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator will state it.

Mr. SMATHERS. Has not the matter been passed upon?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It has.

Mr. LANGER. I am trying to find out something about it.

Mr. SMATHERS. The House amendments have been concurred in.

Mr. LANGER. I am wondering why judges of the Customs Court are not included.

Mr. McCARRAN. Do those judges move from their places of residence to engage in trials?

Mr. LANGER. Judges of the Customs Court do.

Mr. McCARRAN. Then they get the customary traveling expenses.

Mr. LANGER. The Customs Court sends men all over the United States.

Mr. McCARRAN. They are examiners; they are not members of the Customs Court.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. Mr. President, I am still seeking information on the question. I ask reconsideration of the vote by which the House amendments were concurred in.

Mr. KNOWLAND. Mr. President, I think we should clear these matters up one at a time. I would have no objection, if the Senator from Nevada [Mr. McCARRAN] would have no objection—

I do not want to move to reconsider—I would be willing to ask for unanimous consent that the motion be reconsidered, if the Senator from South Carolina wants to discuss the matter further.

Mr. McCARRAN. I would agree to that.

Mr. KNOWLAND. Then, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to reconsider the vote by which the House amendments were concurred in.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the reconsideration of the vote by which the House amendments to Senate bill 32 were concurred in? The Chair hears none, and the vote is reconsidered.

The question is on agreeing to the motion of the Senator from Nevada to concur in the House amendments to Senate bill 32.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. Mr. President, I think the Senate ought to know what it is doing in regard to this matter. At present Federal judges receive \$10 a day for expenses. This bill increases the maximum on expenses from \$10 to \$25 a day.

Mr. ANDERSON. Mr. President, will the Senator from South Carolina yield?

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I yield.

Mr. ANDERSON. What does a Cabinet officer receive when he travels?

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I understand that the limit is \$9 a day.

Mr. ANDERSON. I am quite sure that must be so. I cannot understand a \$25-a-day allowance for a judge and a \$9-a-day allowance for the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Defense or any other Cabinet officer. I hope the Senator will move to send the bill to conference.

Mr. GORE. The Senate bill, which was passed on the consent calendar, raised the permissible allowance from \$10 to \$15. I read the bill and the report.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. That is correct.

Mr. GORE. It does not allow that much as expense. Judges must itemize their expenses, but, under the Senate bill, they are not reimbursable in excess of \$15 a day. The bill was returned to the Senate with a House amendment raising the amount permissible for reimbursement to \$25 a day.

Mr. ANDERSON. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I yield.

Mr. ANDERSON. Was there any discussion about raising the allowance to as high as \$15 a day?

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. There was very little discussion on the floor of the Senate; in the committee there was a great deal of discussion in regard to it.

Mr. HUNT. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I yield.

Mr. HUNT. Why should a judge receive \$25 a day for expenses when he is away from his post of duty, and a United States Senator receive \$9? To my way of thinking, it probably costs us just as much to live when we are away on the

business of the Senate as it costs a judge to live when he is assigned to another court. I should like to have a reason why the amount is \$25 in one case, and \$10 in another.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. For the information of the Senator from Wyoming, the question of the amounts to be allowed on expense accounts has been under discussion in the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, and that committee decided to keep the allowances the same. But this bill was reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, and was not referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, which usually handles all matters pertaining to travel allowance. If this bill is passed, we shall be faced with the possibility that other departments will come to Congress and seek to have referred to another committee a bill to increase their travel allowance. Other departments will go to other committees for the same purpose. It is because of such possibilities that matters of this kind have been placed under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, so as to treat the question of travel allowances in all departments of the Government in the same way.

That is the only question I am raising now. I think it is out of reason to give judges a \$25-a-day travel allowance.

Mr. McCARRAN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I yield.

Mr. McCARRAN. A Federal employee or a United States Senator receives \$9 a day. A Senator gets \$9 a day if he spends only \$2.50 a day. So does a Federal employee. But a Federal judge must itemize his expenses and submit a report to the proper authorities, and the limit of his expense is \$25 a day.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I would have no objection to having judges treated exactly like Senators, so far as that feature is concerned.

Mr. ANDERSON. Why give the judge only \$10 a day? I never heard of any Member of the Senate who could travel for \$2.50 a day or \$10 a day. The minute he enters any hotel, he is subject to unusual expenditures.

Mr. McCARRAN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I yield.

Mr. McCARRAN. The Senator is making an argument in favor of the House amendment, as I view it, because when a judge is called from the West to sit in the East, perhaps for months at a time on the trial of a case, he must go to a hotel; and the minute he enters the hotel, he has to pay \$10 or \$15 a day for a room, and he cannot get his meals for \$5 a day.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I grant that what the Senator says is correct, but it should be understood that all other employees of the Federal Government are in similar circumstances; their traveling expenses have also increased. I merely say that I do not think \$25 should be given to judges, while limiting the allowance to other Federal employees to \$9.



Mr. President, I move that the Senate disagree to the House amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the motion of the Senator from South Carolina to disagree to the House amendments to Senate bill 32.

Mr. McCARRAN. I hope the motion will not prevail. If it is agreed to, the bill is dead for this session, and there is no telling for how long afterward. The bill has been before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary for a long time. It passed the Senate and went to the House. The House amended it. In my judgment the amendment, under the law, is proper, because judges must itemize their living expenses while they are away from home. They will not receive \$25 a day as a flat rate, but they must itemize their expenses.

Mr. KNOWLAND. Mr. President, I wonder if the distinguished Senator from South Carolina would yield to me to address an inquiry to the Senator from Nevada?

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I yield.

Mr. KNOWLAND. I am trying to see if we can keep our legislative program moving along. Perhaps the suggestion I am about to make will at least clarify the thinking before there is to be a vote on the question. A number of questions were raised on the floor. I did not know the particular motion was to be made prior to the time the Senator from Nevada made it; otherwise I would have tried to obtain the necessary information in advance.

I wonder if the Senator from Nevada would be willing to have the matter passed over at present, to enable him to secure information for the Senate relative to the question of judges of the customs court, raised by the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. LANGER], about which the Senator from Nevada is not quite certain; and, second, to obtain specific information as to what the situation is relative to Cabinet officials and others in the executive branch of the Government.

It might well be that when the facts are before the Senate, some of us would be influenced in our decision as to whether we should seek to have a conference with the House on the bill, and to ask the House to appoint conferees and to have the Senate appoint conferees. If it is important enough that we should do that, it should be done immediately, so that the bill can be acted upon at this session.

It may be the judgment of the Senate that that would be preferable, and perhaps the distinguished Senator from Nevada himself would be convinced of the wisdom of it, so that he himself might ask for a conference, if it were deemed advisable.

I wonder if the Senator from Nevada would be willing to obtain additional information, and if the Senator from South Carolina would be willing to withhold his motion.

Mr. McCARRAN. I want the Senate to have all the information with reference to the bill. I have no objection at all to the process suggested by the Senator from California.

Mr. JOHNSTON of South Carolina. I call the attention of the Senate to the fact that the Senate agreed to a 50 percent increase.

Mr. LANGER. Mr. President, I have carefully examined the House amendment, and I find that the judges of the Customs Court are included with other judges. We have had the matter under discussion month after month and year after year. Some of the judges will not travel. I remember that one such judge went to Puerto Rico to hold hearings and when he finished he was out of pocket \$400 of his own money. So long as those judges are included, I think the House amendment should be agreed to.

Mr. KNOWLAND. Mr. President, I ask that the matter be laid aside for the present. When the Senator from Nevada has obtained the necessary information, I will again discuss the matter with the minority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

#### COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND EVALUATE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EXPERIMENTS IN WEATHER MODIFICATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the amendments of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 285) entitled "An act to create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification," which were, on page 4, line 2, after "designee", insert "the Director of the National Science Foundation or his designee, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare or his designee,".

On page 4, strike out lines 9 through 11, inclusive, and insert:

SEC. 5. The President shall appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee. The Chairman shall be appointed from among those persons appointed to the Committee from private life.

On page 4, strike out lines 12 through 16, inclusive, and insert:

SEC. 6. The Committee shall hold at least 2 meetings a year, approximately 6 months apart, and, on due notice, shall meet at such other times as the Committee may determine. Six members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

On page 5, line 7, strike out "\$11,000" and insert "\$12,000"; and on page 8, strike out lines 14 through 23, inclusive, and insert:

SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall from time to time submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the President for submission to the Congress. At the earliest possible moment, the Committee shall submit a report to the President for submission to the Congress on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating, by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to engage in activities designed to modify or control the weather. The Committee shall submit a final report to the President for submission to the Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

(b) Thirty days after the Committee has submitted such final report to the President, the Committee shall cease to exist.

Mr. BRICKER. Mr. President, the House has passed this bill with several

perfecting amendments. None of the amendments changes the character of the bill in any way, and I move that the Senate concur in the House amendments.

Mr. CASE. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. BRICKER. I yield.

Mr. CASE. I am happy to accept the House amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion of the Senator from Ohio.

The motion was agreed to.

#### INCREASE IN AMOUNT AUTHORIZED TO BE APPROPRIATED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF EKLUTNA PROJECT

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the amendments of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 2097) to increase the amount authorized to be appropriated for the construction of the Eklutna project, which were, to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That the act of July 31, 1950 (64 Stat. 382), be amended as follows:

(1) By amending the first sentence of section 1 to read as follows: "That in order to encourage and promote the economic development of the Territory of Alaska, to foster the establishment of essential industries in said Territory, and to further the self-sufficiency of national defense installations located therein, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the 'Secretary') is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain the Eklutna project in the vicinity of Anchorage, Alaska, consisting of a low dam at Lake Eklutna, a diversion tunnel and penstock, a power plant with an installed capacity of 30,000 kilowatts, transmission lines to Anchorage and other load centers, and related works (except recreational facilities) substantially in accordance with the plans and recommendations in the report adopted by the Secretary of the Interior on January 18, 1949, on file with the Committee on Public Lands of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate at an estimated cost not to exceed \$33 million."

(2) By adding a new paragraph to section 1, as follows: "The continuation of construction of the Eklutna project beyond December 1, 1953, is hereby made contingent upon there being a finding by the Secretary by that date that he and the proper officials of the city of Anchorage, Alaska, have approved a form of contract whereby the city would agree to convey to the United States such hydroelectric and other properties, including water rights, as the Secretary has determined should be acquired by the United States in connection with the Eklutna project, and whereby in consideration therefor the United States would agree to deliver to said city electric energy upon terms which in the Secretary's judgment would accord said city just compensation for the properties agreed to be conveyed."

(3) By amending the last sentence of section 2 to read as follows: "All receipts from the transmission and sale of electric power and energy generated at said project shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States to the credit of miscellaneous receipts."

(4) By amending section 6 to read as follows: There are authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$33 million for the construction of the Eklutna project, and, in addition, such sums as may be necessary for the







Public Law 256 - 83d Congress  
Chapter 426 - 1st Session  
S. 285

AN ACT

All 67 Stat. 559.

To create a committee to study and evaluate public and private experiments in weather modification.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

Weather  
modification.  
Evaluation.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND POLICY

Research and experimentation in the field of weather modification and control have attained the stage at which the application of scientific advances in this field appears to be practical.

The effect of the use of measures for the control of weather phenomena upon the social, economic, and political structures of today, and upon national security, cannot now be determined. It is a field in which unknown factors are involved. It is reasonable to anticipate, however, that modification and control of weather, if effective on a large scale, would cause profound changes in our present way of life and would result in vast and far-reaching benefits to agriculture, industry, commerce, and the general welfare and common defense.

While the ultimate extent to which weather modification and control may be utilized is speculative, the application of such measures without proper safeguards, sufficient data and accurate information may result in inadequate or excessive precipitation; may cause catastrophic droughts, storms, floods, and other phenomena with consequent loss of life and property, injury to navigable streams and other channels of interstate and foreign commerce, injury to water supplies for municipal, irrigation, and industrial purposes, and injury to sources of hydroelectric power; may otherwise impede the production and transportation of goods and services for domestic consumption and export and for the national defense; and may otherwise adversely affect the general welfare and common defense.

Thorough experimentation and full-scale operations in weather modification and control will of necessity affect areas extending across State and possibly across national boundaries. The Congress, therefore, recognizes that experimentation and application of such measures are matters of national and international concern.

Accordingly, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress, in order to effect the maximum benefit which may result from experiments and operations designed to modify and control weather, to correlate and evaluate the information derived from such activity and to cooperate with the several States and the duly authorized officials thereof with respect to such activity, all to the end of encouraging the intelligent experimentation and the beneficial development of weather modification and control, preventing its harmful and indiscriminate exercise, and fostering sound economic conditions in the public interest.

CREATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WEATHER CONTROL

SEC. 2. There is hereby established a national committee to be known as the Advisory Committee on Weather Control (hereinafter called the "Committee").

SEC. 3. The Committee shall make a complete study and evaluation of public and private experiments in weather control for the purpose of determining the extent to which the United States should experiment with, engage in, or regulate activities designed to control weather conditions.



All 67 Stat. 560.

Members.

SEC. 4. The Committee shall be composed of the Secretary of Defense or his designee, the Secretary of Agriculture or his designee, the Secretary of Commerce or his designee, the Secretary of the Interior or his designee, the Director of the National Science Foundation or his designee, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare or his designee, and five members appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from among persons in private life of outstanding ability in the fields of science, agriculture, and business. A vacancy in the Committee shall not affect its powers but shall be filled in the same manner that the original appointment was made.

SEC. 5. The President shall appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee. The Chairman shall be appointed from among those persons appointed to the Committee from private life.

Meetings.

SEC. 6. The Committee shall hold at least two meetings a year, approximately six months apart, and, on due notice, shall meet at such other times as the Committee may determine. Six members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Compensation.

SEC. 7. The members of the Committee who are in the executive branch of the Government shall receive no additional compensation for their services on the Committee. The members from private life shall each receive \$50 per diem when engaged in the performance of duties vested in the Committee. All members of the Committee shall be reimbursed in accordance with the Travel Expense Act of 1949, as amended, for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of duties vested in the Committee.

63 Stat. 166.  
5 USC 835 note.

Officers and employees.

SEC. 8. The Committee shall have power to appoint and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Committee, including one executive secretary at a salary not exceeding \$12,000 per annum. Officers and employees other than the executive secretary shall be appointed in accordance with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, except that to the extent the Committee deems such action necessary to the discharge of its responsibilities, personnel for positions requiring scientific or special qualifications may be employed and their compensation fixed without regard to such laws. The Committee shall make adequate provision for administrative review of any determination to dismiss any employee.

63 Stat. 954.  
5 USC 1071  
note.

Hearings.

SEC. 9. (a) The Committee, or any member thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and places, and take such testimony as the Committee shall deem advisable. Any member of the Committee may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before the Committee or before such member.

Information,  
etc., from  
agencies.

(b) The Committee is authorized to secure directly from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics for the purpose of this Act; and each such department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is authorized and directed to furnish such information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Committee, upon request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

Personnel of  
other agencies.

(c) The Committee may, with the consent of the agency concerned, accept and utilize, on a reimbursable basis, the personnel of any other agency of the Federal Government.

(d) (1) The Committee shall be entitled by regulation, subpoena, Information from persons.  
or otherwise, to obtain such information from, require such reports and the keeping of such records by, and make such inspection of the books, records, and other writings, premises or property of, any person as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Act, but this authority shall not be exercised if adequate and authoritative data are available from any Federal agency. In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena served upon, any person referred to in this subsection, the district court of the United States for any district in which such person is found or resides or transacts business, upon application by the Committee, shall have jurisdiction to issue an order requiring such person to appear and give testimony or to appear and produce documents, or both; and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by such court as a contempt thereof.

(2) The production of a person's books, records, or other documentary evidence shall not be required at any place other than the place where such person usually keeps them, if, prior to the return date specified in the regulations, subpoena, or other document issued with respect thereto, such person furnishes the Committee with a true copy of such books, records, or other documentary evidence (certified by such person under oath to be a true and correct copy) or enters into a stipulation with the Committee as to the information contained in such books, records, or other documentary evidence. Witnesses shall be paid Witness fees.  
the same fees and mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States.

(3) Any person who willfully performs any act prohibited or will- Penalty.  
fully fails to perform any act required by the above provisions of this subsection, or any rule, regulation, or order thereunder, shall upon conviction be fined not more than \$500 for each offense.

(4) Information obtained under this Act which the Committee Confidential  
deems confidential for purposes of national security or other reasons information.  
or with reference to which a request for confidential treatment is made by the person or agency furnishing such information, shall not be published or disclosed unless the Committee determines that the withholding thereof is contrary to the purposes of this Act, and any member or employee of the Committee willfully violating this provision shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$5,000.

(e) The Committee shall be entitled to the free use of the United Use of mails.  
States mails in the same manner as the other executive agencies of the Government.

SEC. 10. (a) The Committee shall from time to time submit a Report.  
report on its findings and recommendations to the President for submission to the Congress. At the earliest possible moment, the Committee shall submit a report to the President for submission to the Congress on the advisability of the Federal Government regulating, by means of licenses or otherwise, those who attempt to engage in activities designed to modify or control the weather. The Committee shall submit a final report to the President for submission to the Congress not later than June 30, 1956.

(b) Thirty days after the Committee has submitted such final Termination  
report to the President, the Committee shall cease to exist. date.

All 67 Stat. 561.

Appropriation. SEC. 11. There are authorized to be appropriated, from any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as the Congress may from time to time deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Approved August 13, 1953.